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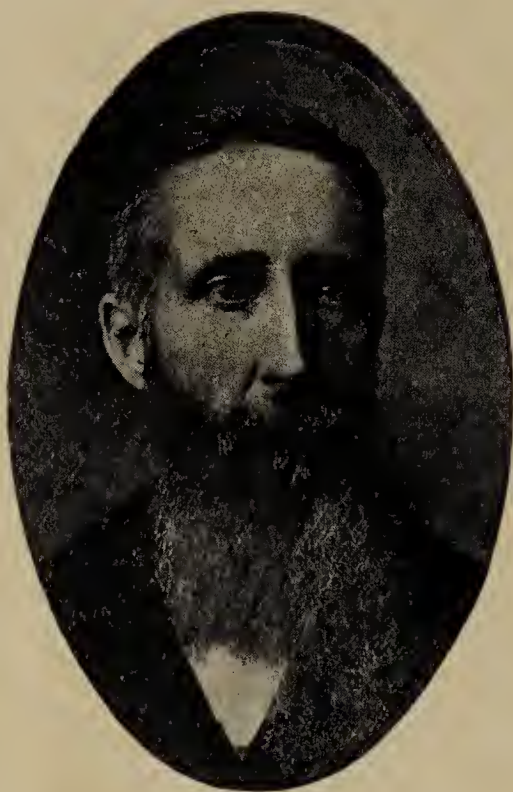
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George A. Gilpatric



The Village of <sup>c</sup>  
Kennebunk, Maine



Interesting Facts from  
old documents and  
maps, and  
Observations  
by the author,

George A. Gilpatric

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## FOREWORD

The first Paper is the program of the Centennial Celebration, July 4, 1876, concluding with the address of Andrew Walker. His subject was "Kennebunk As It Was in 1790." It was a description given him by three aged residents as they remembered it in 1865.

The Second is a description of it as I remember it in 1860 with such descriptions as I have been able to get from the Town Histories (which I freely quote), Journals, Church and Lodge Records, old residents and any other source available.

The Third is what I have seen from 1860 to 1930 and have been able to compile from various sources.

A description of Roads and Bridges. The Mousam River, its dams, mills and its different channels.

The First Congregational Church, from its records, including a list of its tax payers in 1774, copied from the original book (which I have). This tells who the male and a few female residents were in 1774.

The description of the Mills before 1860 is rather indefinite. Since that time I think that it is nearly correct. The description of old buildings has been obtained from various sources; dates and descriptions vary in some cases. I have given what I knew personally and what seemed to fit in best with other records.

The dates and events of interest are compiled from any source available. Many of the accounts of early events in the Town History were the recollections of the older residents, and if from different people dates would naturally differ. Even gravestones are not a sure record of the date of death. There is a stone in Hope Cemetery of a man who was somewhat prominent in Kennebunk village in the early 1800's and the date of death on the stone is twenty years different from the date given in the Parish Records and in the Records of York Lodge of Masons.

Locations are sometimes given which, when written, were no doubt plain to all. In a reference to the Landing place on Mousam River reference is made to a large stump which it would be hard to find today. I saw in the Wells Town Records, Kennebunk copy, when a lot of land was laid out in 1756. Some of the bounds were from the River so many rods to a pitch pine tree with letters cut in the bark; then so far to a small maple tree; from there to a white birch and no names given of the adjoining owners. With such descriptions and records it is hard to compile anything very accurate. I have given dates that I knew. When I did not know I said *about*. I have tried to be *accurate*.

I don't think that these Papers are of much value but they may help some future historian. The Mill Records from 1870 to 1930 I think are *accurate*.

# The Village of Kennebunk, Maine

## CHAPTER ONE

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, JULY 4, 1876

On May 12, a public meeting was held in the Town Hall to make preliminary arrangements for a Centennial Celebration. A committee of 27 were appointed to make arrangements. Funds were solicited and committees appointed and the program arranged.

A salute of thirteen guns was fired at sunrise and ringing of all of the Church bells. A large number of flags and bunting were displayed. A large display of relics of the past were in the Town Hall.

The public exercises were held in the Town Hall and Unitarian Church. Joseph Dane was president of the day and presided in the Church. Joseph Titcomb presided in the Hall.

Address by Joseph Dane, President of the Day

Prayer by Rev. Walter E. Darling

Reading the Declaration of Independence

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Miss Ida E. Wormwood

Address, "Some Reminiscences of the Revolution"

Rev. Edmund Worth

Address, "Church and Schools, 1749 to 1820" Rev. Chas. C. Vinal

Address, "Kennebunk Village As It Was in 1790"

Andrew Walker

Music

Address, Historical

Daniel Remich

Music

The exercises were the same in the Hall and Church except that the order of some addresses were reversed.

An elm tree was set out in front of the Church. It was actually set out May 17 but formally dedicated July 4th with appropriate exercises.

A shadow was cast upon the exercises by the news that Jesse Webster had been killed by the premature discharge of a cannon on Centennial Hill.

A procession was formed with Col. James M. Stone Chief Marshal. Two bands. Officers of the Town.

Mousam Lodge, I. O. O. F., John J. Merrill, Marshal; thirteen young ladies dressed in white to represent the thirteen Original States, riding in a large carriage.

An organization from Kennebunk Depot.

School children and citizens on foot and in carriages. The route was through the principal streets to the tent where dinner was served. It was intended to have toasts but a wind squall struck the tent and it was blown down. No one was injured.

At that time (1876) Park Street only extended to Dane Street, Grove Street to the Curtis house. The place where the tent and exercises were held was the field formerly owned and then known as Ben Smith's Hill, now known as Centennial Hill.

#### KENNEBUNK VILLAGE IN 1790

*Address of Andrew Walker in Mousam Hall and the  
Unitarian Church, July 4, 1876*

An old Boston Divine says it would not be unprofitable for you to pass over the several streets and call to mind who lived here so many years ago.

In January, 1865, I obtained from Capt. John Nason, then aged 82, Mr. Nathaniel Jefferds then aged 88, and Mrs. Mary Lord then aged 98, the following information of Kennebunk Village as it was in 1790, each of these informants having been familiar with the Village from their childhood. As a matter of course perfect accuracy has not been attained or even expected. This account is simply the united recollection of these aged persons, and I will add, within three years from the time the information was obtained they were all dead.

Coming from the east after passing Kennebunk River the first dwelling a person saw was a two-story house belonging to Nathaniel Kimball. This house was near the dwelling now owned by Edward Haney. This N. Kimball is said by Judge Sayward to have been the father of Kennebunk. He opened the first Public House and was the first Postmaster in town, but we think he was not Postmaster in 1790 as he was then, if living, an old man. The Office had been removed nearer the village (to Barnard's Tavern). The next house, also two-story, was the residence of Richard Kimball, brother of Nathaniel. This dwelling stood a few rods above the brick house now owned by Aaron Ricker. He was the first Deacon of the church in the village and the first retail grocer in town. These brothers were enterprising, prosperous, and influential. A full account of them is given in the recently published History of Kennebunk.

John Gilpatrick, who was a native of Ireland, had a small house on the eastern side of the road near that now owned by



Owen E. Burnham. A few rods southerly was the house of his grandson, Samuel Gilpatrick. As our narrator came along on the western side of the road was a one-story house owned by James Wakefield near the dwelling where Mrs. Simon Kimball now lives. The next house was built and occupied as a Public House by Joseph Barnard. It is the large part of the house now owned by Daniel Curtis. Mr. Barnard was a noted man in his day. Willis says in his History of Portland that Joseph Barnard of Kennebunk was the first rider between Portsmouth and Falmouth (now called Portland). In 1787 he made the first attempt to carry passengers in the State. It was thought a great undertaking and he was loudly applauded for his zeal and activity. He was the next Postmaster in Kennebunk after Nathaniel Kimball. Mr. Jefferds told me that when he was a boy Mr. Barnard used to open the mail bag at his house, take from the bag that part of the mail directed here, put in the portion directed elsewhere, then close the bag and pass on over his mail route.

A short distance westward from the Barnard House, near where a large elm tree now grows was the two-story residence of Edmund Currier. He was the father of, and this was the home of our lady informant, Mrs. Mary Lord (Mrs. Dominicus Lord) before she was married. A small schoolhouse stood two or three rods southerly of the present entrance to Hope Cemetery. Within a few feet of the schoolhouse was the Pound.

Next was the Meeting House, as it was originally voted to be built in 1772, 56 feet long and 46 feet wide, the length then being the width now. Near the western corner of the Meeting House and at right angles with the house was the horse sheds. In the Meeting House yard about half way between the horse sheds and the road was the horse block for the convenience of mounting and dismounting of the large number of People who rode to meeting on horseback. The man rode before and wife behind on a pillion sometimes holding a child in her arms, the wife often clinging to the husband and the child to its mother.

On the eastern side of the road was James Kimball's blacksmith shop and that part of his house which now fronts the Meeting House. Carpenters were then at work building the house of James Osborn, the village school master. This house still remains in possession of James Osborn, Jr., now occupied by Esther Ross.

On the southerly side of the road now called Main Street, where the late Barnabas Palmer lived, was the store of Benj. Brown, commonly called Esquire Brown. He built and occupied what was then considered the most beautiful and costly residence in

the village, now owned and recently occupied by Edw. E. Bourne, Jr. Within thirty years it has been somewhat modernized. The first few years after the house was built part of it was occupied as a store. His trade increasing, Esq. Brown changed his place of business to the before mentioned locality. The front yard fence of this residence attracted much attention as the posts were covered with powdered glass which glistened when the sun was shining.

Dominicus Lord had a blacksmith shop on the spot where Michael Wise built his house, now owned but not occupied by Capt. John F. Mason. On the triangular lot of land between Garden and Main Streets were the stores of Tobias Lord, John Low and Joseph Storer. Col. Joseph Storer was a noted man in this vicinity in his day and generation. He owned nearly all the land where the village of Kennebunk is excepting that part called Zion's Hill. He also owned a mile square of woodland near the village on the road to Alfred. He commanded a Regiment in the Revolutionary Army and died in Albany in 1777. In 1790 his widow, then called Madam Storer, and her two sons, Clement and Joseph, resided in the Storer Mansion on what is now called Storer Street. This residence was then only two stories in front with Lutheran windows in the front roof and a long sloping roof on the back side similar to the present Hubbard House. Doubtless some of you have noticed that this style of ancient houses were invariably built facing the south.

The small farm house in which Colonel Storer lived before he built the Mansion house is still standing in good condition a short distance northward on the same side of the street. All of the cleared land between the Storer house and Schoolmaster Osborn's house was then a mowing field owned by the Storer heirs. Their houses and part of the homestead land is now owned by Charles Parsons.

Tobias Lord then lived in the Gillespie or Glassy house which stood in the yard of the present saw mill. He began to trade in a small store a few rods nearer the principal street, afterward in a larger store on the Main Street. About half way from the Gillespie house to the principal street was a small low posted dwelling which has had many occupants. In the spring of 1790 Schoolmaster Osborn was living there. In the fall of 1790 a Mr. Purington was the occupant. He was a maker and repairer of bridles, pillions, saddle bags and leather goods. The saw mill was then above the bridge on the eastern end of the Upper Dam. The Grist Mill on or near the site of the present Grist Mill.

On the western side of the river about three rods below the

bridge was the Clothing Mill of Major William Jefferds. There were two buildings, usually called Iron Works, for melting and manufacturing iron from native ore. One factory was on the western end of the Lower Dam. The other below the dam on what is now an island near the present Leatherboard Mill. The iron ore, and consequently the iron, was of poor quality.

Richard Gilpatrick had a blacksmith shop near the gate now leading to Clark and Ferguson's Sash and Blind Factory. His small, two-story house stood facing the river on what is now the eastern end of Brown Street. Major William Jefferds dwelt in a one-story house a few rods distant. In later years these houses were enlarged to their present dimensions. John C. Baker, hotel keeper, is now proprietor of the Jefferds residence. The gambrel-roofed Gilpatrick house, one of the most elegant and costly in the village, now moved to the western side of Brown Street, retains but little of its former elegance except the Lutheran windows in the roof.

Dominicus Lord lived in a small house eastward of the dwelling where Mrs. George Mendum now resides. Major Nathaniel Cousens occupied the house now owned by Joseph Parsons and occupied by Hannah Dorman. The late Judge Bourne told me that he was indebted to Major Cousens for much information in regard to the ancient history of Kennebunk.

Road to the Port.—On the side where is now R. W. Lord's residence was then a one-story house occupied by Moses Blaisdell. The house now owned by Mrs. Hillard was in 1790 occupied by Jacob Blaisdell. Moses and Jacob were brothers. They came to this town as forgemmen in the Iron Works. Near the residence of the late Capt. Hatch now in the possession of Miss Elizabeth W. Hatch was the small, unfinished house owned and occupied by John Wakefield. His barn was on the opposite side of the road. A short distance below the residence of Daniel L. Hatch was a small gambrel roof building occupied by a Mr. English. The Hubbard house was then owned by Capt. John Hubbard. The form of this house has been altered, in particular the front part of the roof.

#### *Miscellaneous*

The bridge over Mousam River was then lower, that is, nearer the water, than the present bridge. The bridge across Scotchman's Brook was also lower than at present. There was a hill between them. If a load of hay, said one of my informants, was on the River bridge it could not have been seen by a person at Scotchman's Brook. On my expressing surprise at this statement, Mr. Jefferds remarked that he might be mistaken as it re-



gards the load of hay, but at least there was a great difference in the appearance of the road then and now.

The six large elm trees in front of the residence of the late Dr. Smart and the late Joseph Dane, Sr., were, in 1790, about as large as the three elm trees now in front of the Baptist Church. These trees were planted by Theodore Lyman. As it happened, the trees were fortunately planted on the day the Battle of Lexington was fought. At that time he had a store and expected to build a residence on the lot which he had ornamented with trees, but had moved to the Landing previous to 1790. At that date his store had been hauled away and altered into a dwelling for the before mentioned Jacob Blaisdell.

Rev. Daniel Little was and had been during the thirty-nine preceding years pastor of the only church in that part of the Town of Wells now called Kennebunk. His parish was then of the same extent as the present town boundary. At a Parish meeting three years previously, it was voted to sing in the forenoon (as formerly) line by line; in the afternoon verse by verse. The Parish accounts were then kept in pounds, shillings and pence.

In 1784 Dr. Jacob Fisher came from Wrentham, Mass. Nov. 7, 1786, he was united in marriage with Hannah Brown, a sister of Benj. Brown, Esq., and during a number of years lived in the house with him. Dr. Samuel Emerson, a graduate of Harvard College in 1785, came from Hollis, N. H., to this town in 1790. He was then unmarried.

Where the house of the late Mrs. Jane L. Wise now stands and in front of it was a small grave yard. There was another small yard (principally of the Wakefield family) between the present residence of Col. Wm. L. Thompson and the house of Mrs. Hilgard. A third, originally of the Hubbard family, is now near the right hand corner as we turn to the B. & M. R. R. Station. The appearance of graves in two of these yards has disappeared. The graves in the last mentioned of the yards will probably not be seen ten years hence. Hannah, widow of Col. Joseph Storer, died in Feb. 1790. Her body was the first interment in the cemetery near the First Parish Church. At that time the ancient custom had not been changed in New England, that human bodies (except criminals) were interred head to the west.



## CHAPTER TWO

## KENNEBUNK IN 1860

It would be interesting if we could have had the three aged persons who gave the information of how Kennebunk looked in 1790, continue their description to 1860. They lived in that time, they saw the changes and could have given incidents that are now lost forever. We now have to get what we can from the Town Histories (which I freely quote), old journals, Church and Lodge records, diaries, and any other source available. There are only a few now living who remember 1860.

There had been many changes from 1790. Then Kennebunk was a part of Wells, the Province of Maine a part of Massachusetts. March 15, 1820, Maine became a State. June 24, 1820, Kennebunk was incorporated as a town. Aug. 14, 1820, the first town meeting was held in what had been the Second Congregational Church in Wells, but which by the incorporation became and has since been called the First Congregational Parish in Kennebunk. The following officers were elected: Timothy Frost, Town Clerk; Benj. Titcomb, Jr., James Dorrance and Timothy Frost, Selectmen. The population of the new Town was 2,145; number of polls 483; valuation, \$235,023.40.

Main Street as it looked in 1860, or as it seems to me now that it looked then: I will start at the bridge over Mousam River and go east. As the Counting Room at the west end is described under the head of Mills, I will commence with the Old Grist Mill at the east end of the bridge. It is the same building as mentioned in the description of 1790 (I have not found any record of when or by whom built). It is a little distance from the street, as the bridge was moved up river 17 feet in 1830. Water Street is very near on the east side. This is and has been a very important building in the community. It has stones for grinding all kinds of grain and the necessary machinery for bolting flour from wheat, rye and barley, all of which are raised by the farmers. Probably Samuel Kimball is the miller. He takes toll to pay for grinding, about two quarts for each bushel.

In the winter Water Street is filled with logs to Main Street. On the east corner of Water Street before 1850 was the store of Charles Condry. When it was built is unknown. It was occupied in 1850 by Charles Cousens as a country store. A few years later it was removed up Storer Street to nearly opposite Mechanic Street, and sold to Capt. Albert Williams who now occupies it. On the site of this store, after the fire on the Triangle of

June 10, 1858, Samuel Clark built a store which he now occupies. He deals in hardware, paints, patent medicines, etc.

The next building, its history not known, is a grocery store. We may find Alvin Stevens or Lorenzo Parsons, proprietors. A little back from the street is the house of Mrs. William W. Wise. It was built by Daniel Whitney in 1810. Mrs. Wise and her daughter occupy it. Next is a small building which was moved here about 1853. It was built near the eastern end of the Triangle by Tobias Lord previous to 1790 and used by him and others for a store. It is now close to the sidewalk and has had various tenants, barber, shoemaker, harness maker, etc. It is probably owned by the Mason heirs of Kennebunkport. We shall have occasion to refer to this building again as it will be moved twice more.

On the site of what was in 1790 the blacksmith shop of Dominicus Lord, Michael Wise built a house in 1792, in which year he married Hannah, daughter of Nathaniel Kimball. Joseph Thomas had his law office in this house several years. Wise occupied it until his death in 1833, aged 67 years. His widow married Capt. Jeremiah Paul who purchased the homestead and resided there until his death when it became the property of his daughter, Abiah Paul of Kennebunkport. She married Benj. F. Mason. It has had several tenants. John Cobby may be there now.

The Wise store, built about 1793 is east of the house and was used as a store many years. It is now the wheelwright shop of Rev. N. K. Sargent and his son, Jefferson W., who also makes coffins and takes charge at funerals if desired. The second story is the carriage painting shop of Joseph Sargent with a long slip at the western end. On the east side, in a small building, is the repair shop of Edw. Brown.

On the corner of Curtis Lane is a building formerly the bake shop of Benj. Smith, Sr. It is now the carpenter shop of Orrin Kimball and Joseph Day. Back of this building was probably about 1800 the tan yard of Joseph Curtis. It was sold or leased to Edmund Pierson, who about 1811 removed to just below the western end of the lower dam. There were in 1860 two houses either built or moved to about the tan yard site. The lane only extended to the house of Ralph Curtis, moved there about 1820. It was built on Storer Street, above the Parson Fletcher Farm. The house on the east corner was built by Phineas Cole in 1799. He sold to Benj. Smith, Sr., who resided there until his death. It then became the property of his son, Benj., Jr., who now occupies it.

The next house was built by Pomfret Howard in 1788. He sold to Thomas Folsom and he in 1809 to Stephen Thatcher, who was Judge of Probate, Postmaster, and teacher of a private school. Judge Thatcher sold to Wm. Safford, who, with his son-in-law, Charles Herrick, now occupies it. The next is the house built by Benj. Brown in 1784. This house is fully described in the Chapter on Old Houses, and to avoid repetition is omitted here. The small house next, also built by Brown, was sold in 1840 to Abel M. Bryant, who occupies it. Richard Littlefield lives in the next house. (Question: Did he build it?)

The lane extends to the house occupied by George W. Hardy. It is owned by his father-in-law, Horace Porter. This house was hauled there and occupied by James Larrabee. There was formerly a house where the Baptist Church is, built by John H. Bartlett, Sr. He sold it about 1830 to William Lord who removed it to Sewell Lane and sold it to Loammi H. Kimball. The Baptist Church was built in 1840. The next house was built before 1842 (I don't know the date), by Samuel Mitchell. In that year he returned to Kennebunk Depot where he was the first station agent of the P., S. & P. R. R. He sold to Jabez Smith, who about 1850 sold to Joseph Dane, Jr., who has made additions to it and resides there.

The next used to be called the Long Building. Benj. Brown purchased the land of James Kimball and built the main building before 1790. He had a store in it but sold in 1793 to Wm. Jefferds and Stephen Tucker who used it several years. When or by whom the additions were built is unknown. Richard C. Raynes bought the western end. He has a cobbler's shop there and occupies one half of the house. Jefferds sold the eastern end to Capt. John Grant. Major Barnabas Palmer married Grant's daughter, and resides there. The house owned and occupied by Capt. Abram Hill was built not later than 1820 by Mrs. Abigail Grant. The Frost house, built in 1799, now occupied by Capt. Noah Nason and the Kimball house, built in 1795, and now occupied by the widow of Joseph Dane, Sr., will be fully described in the Chapter on Old Houses, with their history brought up to 1930.

Union Street was laid out in 1815. The name was changed to Dane Street in 1845.

The White Store.—This was called the White Store as it was painted white. Nearly all of the others were painted yellow. Oct. 9, 1813, James Kimball sold to Moses Savory a lot of land 50 feet front and 75 feet deep parallel to Colonel Enoch Hardy's store lot on Main Street. He probably built the store in 1814. The brick addition is of a later date. The occupants have been:



Moses Savory, Titcomb & Skeelee, Greenough & Bodwell, Miller & Hall. They dissolved and Porter Hall continued until his death in 1853. C. L. Dresser occupied it to sell Hall's goods. Mahlon Hutchinson occupied it and sold corn and flour, then Benj. Perkins, the present occupant, groceries. The owners have been Moses Savory, Rhoda Dutch, who gave it to M. Savory by her will. Joseph Dane bought the Savory claim. Simon L. Whitten, tailor, occupies the second floor.

There is a vacant lot next. The next building was erected by Col. Enoch Hardy in 1810 and used for many years as a tobacco factory. The front part was used as a store. The Post Office was here at one time. In this building was the first telegraph office in Kennebunk. George W. Hardy, son of Col. Enoch, was the operator. The first message was received Dec. 28, 1854. The wires connected with the wires at Kennebunk Depot. The building was sold to Andrew Walker in April, 1856. It is now his furniture store.

The Brick Block on the next lot was built by Mr. William Lord in 1825 and was used by him several years as a country store, then by Isaac Furbush, Sr., the present occupant. There is a large wheel and windlass in the attic, large trap door on each floor and it is used for hoisting hogsheads of molasses, barrels of flour and other heavy goods which are kept in a grocery store. In the second story are the Lodge rooms of Mousam Lodge, No. 26, I. O. O. F.

The next building was erected by Nathaniel Frost about 1793 and first used as a country store. The second story was used as a hall until 1809 when it was leased to James K. Remick for a printing office and as such used until 1850. In 1831 Mr. Remick opened a store on the first floor for the sale of books, stationery and wall paper, wholesale and retail. This part was taken over by his son, Daniel, in 1842 and he now has it. The next store was built by Palmer Walker in 1818. It is used as a saddlers' and harness shop and salesroom. In 1825 Abial Kelley, Jr., built a long, one-story building back of the Walker store, fitted with stalls and tie-ups for teams. It was afterward used as a nine-pin alley for a few years, long since razed.

Green Street was laid out about 1800 by Wm. Taylor. The three-story brick block was erected about 1818 by Abial Kelley and Alexander Warren. It was known for several years as the Exchange. The cellar was used for the accommodation of teamsters from the back towns. The store has had many different tenants. At the present time, Wm. Downing, dry goods, west end; Dr. L. Richards, apothecary, east end. In the second story

is an insurance office; in the third, York Lodge of Masons. Beyond this block is a store-house and tenement. Engine House moved there in 1855 and several other tenements, owners and occupants unknown.

*Back to Mousam River Bridge*

The first building on the site of the saw mill of 1790 is called the Warp Mill and will be described in the Chapter on Manufacturing. Next is the store and tenement of Ivory Cousens and the paint shop of Nathan Cook in the rear. On the corner of Main and Storer Streets is the country store of John Cousens with a tenement in the second story. I have seen a large quantity of poultry shipped from here the week-ends before Thanksgiving to the Boston Markets.

Main, Storer, Garden Streets and the Triangle.—On the western end Joseph Storer built a store which was removed to High Street about 1830 and with additions was the dwelling house of Capt. Joseph Hatch, Jr. Tobias Lord built on the eastern end a store which was moved across Main Street as described. The lot on which Mr. Dresser's now is, had a store built about 1790 by Jesse and James Larrabee, occupied by various tenants until 1823 when it was purchased by James Ross and moved to Pleasant Street where with additions it is occupied by Samuel Kimball. Thomas Boothby built a store about 1795. Richard Gillpatrick also built a store in which he traded; later his son, Col. William Gillpatrick also traded in it. Capt. John Low built the store now occupied by Joseph Getchell.

June 10, 1858, fire destroyed the stores of Samuel Clark, Chas. L. Dresser, Shadrach L. Bragdon on Main Street and the carpenter shop of Benaiah Littlefield with a hall in the second story on Garden Street. I don't know the exact ownership and date of building of these stores. Mr. Dresser rebuilt on the same site. The western end is vacant except hay scales. On the eastern end is a well dug, pump installed and paid for by subscription. Dresser, Col. William L. Thompson and Getchell are all that there are on the Triangle now.

On Garden Street is the terraced lawn of Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr. This will be described under Old Houses. Dr. Orren Ross lives on Garden Street. Mr. Remich says in his History that the house was built about 1800 by Col. Wm. Gillpatrick. (This must be an error as Col. William was not born until 1796.)

On the corner of the lane John Cobby built a small store which he occupies. On the other corner is a building erected by Joseph Parsons as early as 1797 in which Miss Julia Webber now sells millinery. On the next corner was formerly a store which was

moved back and made a tenement. In 1842 Ralph Curtis moved a building from his lane to this site and was fitted up as a store and tenement. The date, 1842, on the front is the date of removal, not of building. This store is occupied by William Fairfield.

We now cross another lane. There are several small houses in the two lanes. Nearly in front of the latter and crossing Main Street diagonally is Scotchman's Brook enclosed now in a stone culvert, where once was a log bridge near the water. There is no trace of the brook from the street. On the eastern corner is a house built by Capt. George Perkins probably in the early 1800's. It is enclosed like all of the houses with a fence at the corner of which for many years has been a cannon, muzzle in the ground. It was brought from sea by Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr. The house has been used part of the time by two families, then one side was used for a store. Capt. Wm. Lord Jr., purchased it about 1855 and it was again changed for two tenements. Capt. Israel Durrell has the west side and Christopher Littlefield the east side. Next is the carpenter shop of Benaiah Littlefield and his sons, built after the fire of June 10, 1858. The next building was moved there many years ago by Joseph Moody from the Sea Road. It was occupied by Palmer and Andrew Walker in partnership, from about 1835 to 1844, then by Andrew Walker until 1856. The Post Office was moved here about 1857 from Colonel Thompson's store on the Triangle. Evat Willard was Postmaster then, Wm. Fairfield is now.

The two-tenement house of John Cousens occupied by him and Simon L. Whitten was formerly the store of Joseph Moody and stood opposite the house of James Titcomb. It was moved here (date unknown). The Sewall field, enclosed with a neat hedge, extends to the residence of Wm. B. Sewall. It was built by John U. Parsons in 1814. He sold in 1816 to Daniel Sewall. At his death in 1842 it came into the possession of the present owner. In this lane is also the house of Loammi H. Kimball, moved from the site of the Baptist Church.

The house on the east corner on Main Street was built by Stephen Furbush in 1797. It was bought by Capt. John Hill in 1858. It is now two tenements, Capt. Hill has the east and Andrew Walker the west end. Joseph Porter bought a lot on Main Street in 1802 and the next year erected a building, one half of which he used for a tin shop, the other half for a dwelling. A few years later he removed to Summer Street. The building was sawed in two and made into two dwellings. One was occupied by his son, Horace until he built his present house in 1848, now occupied by



his heirs. (His old one was removed to Brown Street.) The other part was moved a few rods east and was occupied a few years by Joshua Tolford, a jeweler. It was then sold to Palmer Walker and was destroyed by fire Aug. 3, 1824. On its site Mr. Walker in 1826 built a larger house which he now occupies.

John H. Bartlett bought the next lot in 1804. He was a farmer with a farm just outside the village. He built a house, barn and other buildings. Fire started in his barn Aug. 3, 1824, and burned all of his buildings. He rebuilt the next year, sold in 1852 to Dr. E. G. Stevens and he in 1859 to Capt. Edward Nason who now occupies it.

The next lot was purchased of the Storers in 1807 by Daniel Hodsdon and Jamin Savage. They erected a three-story building which they used as a warehouse and cabinet maker's shop. Savage retired and Edward White took his place. This building was also burned Aug. 3. Oliver Bartlett built a dwelling and bakehouse on the same site. He sold to Oliver Raitt and he to Mrs. Martha Hartwell in 1858. She enlarged and occupies it. The bank block was built by Waterston and Pray in 1806. They sold in 1817 to John U. Parsons & Co. The inside was badly damaged by the fire of Aug. 3, but the walls left standing in a fair condition. Soon after the fire it was sold to Isaac Lord of Effingham, N. H., who repaired the building. The eastern end, first story, was occupied by his sons, James and Isaac Lord, general merchandise, succeeded by Edwin C. Frost who now occupies it. The western end was occupied by Major Barnabas Palmer, who also kept the Post Office there. He was succeeded by the Misses L. K. and J. Wells, millinery. They now occupy it. On the second floor were the law offices of Edw. E. Bourne and William B. Sewall. When the Ocean Bank was organized, May 25, 1854, Mr. Sewall removed his office to his house and the bank occupied the west corner room. There is an outside stairway and entrance. Joseph Titcomb is president and Christopher Littlefield cashier. Mr. Bourne was succeeded in his office by his son, E. E. Bourne, Jr., and James M. Stone. The third floor is Mousam Hall, known at one time as Union Hall. It was used for various purposes until May 8, 1845, when Mousam Lodge, I. O. O. F., was organized. It was their lodge room until 1858 when they removed to the block of Mr. William Lord. After the block was repaired it was known for several years as the Phoenix Building.

There was and had been for several years a small building east of the Brick Block either built or moved there, and it had been used as a store by several different tenants. This also was burned Aug. 3. An annex to the old Brick was built in 1825 by

Daniel Wise, Jr., the end fronting Main Street was brick, the remainder wood. It was used as a store a few years. The third story was used by the Masons for a lodge room until 1834. The building was sold to Jonathan Stone of Kennebunkport, in 1835, who converted the annex into a public house—the Mousam House. He was here about two years, when he sold to Simon L. Whitten and his father-in-law, Mr. Hinds, who occupied it about two years. They were succeeded by Benj. F. Goodwin. He kept it as a boarding house until 1855 when he hung up a sign, "Mousam House," which it now is. There are hay scales on the eastern corner and a large stable on Fletcher street. Elisha Chadbourne had a blacksmith shop in the rear of the Old Brick with entrance on Fletcher Street. This was also burned in the fire of Aug. 3. He sold the lot to Humphrey Chadbourne and Paul Junkins who put up a large building for a salesroom and the manufacture of furniture. They now occupy it.

Fletcher Street was laid out in 1797. On the eastern corner is the store of John Osborn & Co., built about 1815. They have traded here since that time and deal in all kinds of goods, hard or soft, *wet* or dry. It is a favorite stopping place for the teamsters from the back towns with their loads of ship-timber and lumber for the yards at the Landing and Kennebunkport. They usually stop going and coming. John lives in the house built by his father, James (the village schoolmaster in 1790). The old schoolhouse is in the back end of the Meeting House yard. The lot was bought of Joseph Storer in 1797 by a Syndicate of Citizens and the schoolhouse built. It has been the principal house of the District, and here all school meetings are held, some of them lively ones.

The Church is described in another Chapter. In front at the intersection of the streets is the Town Pump, a flag pole and a sign post inscribed, "Boston 79 miles, Portland 26 miles." Diagonally across Main Street is the building erected by James Kimball and Parker Webster in 1805. The Hall in the second story was first called Webster's Hall, then Assembly Hall, now it is Washington Hall. In this hall was held the first Masonic meeting in Wells, Dec. 28, 1812, and here York Lodge was instituted. March 9, 1813. The hall has been used for various purposes—Town Meetings have been held here since 1858. On the corner first story is the jewelry store of Phineas Stevens. There are two other stores which have had many different occupants.

The next house east was built by Dr. Ebenezer Rice prior to 1770. A house beyond, built by Benj. Dighton was removed when the Methodist Church was built in 1858. It was dedicated July





Warren Block, formerly on site of present Town Hall



28, 1858. In the early part of the 19th century there was a burial lot near the Unitarian Church owned by John Low. The first burial in it was that of Mrs. Joseph Storer who died in 1790. In 1816 Mr. Low sold three-fourths of an acre including this lot to a company who organized the Kennebunk Burial Ground, now known as the Old Cemetery, and nearly all who died before 1854 were buried here, except that after Mt. Pleasant was incorporated in 1843 some were buried there, and probably some in private lots of which there is now no trace. In 1854 Hope Cemetery was incorporated and since then many have been removed from other lots as well as the first burial.

Near the present entrance to Hope Cemetery there used to be a schoolhouse, long since removed, and which after being in several locations, is now on Brown Street as the dwelling of Mrs. (Taylor) Roberts. Near here was also the blacksmith shop of Benj. Simpson. The Pound was also near here, where stray cattle and hogs found in the streets were impounded until bailed out. I suppose that this belonged to the Town, as the pound keeper was a town officer.

Barnard Street was the old road. I do not find the date when the new road was laid out. It was accepted as a County Road in 1850, but I think had been in use many years before that. The Unitarian Society bought a lot for a Parsonage of Horace Porter in 1833. Probably built soon after. They sold it in 1850 to Capt. Thomas Lord who now occupies it. James Osborn, Jr., built a house at the intersection of the Old and New Saco Roads about 1820.

(Advertisement in the Kennebunk Gazette, Apr. 18, 1830.)  
(Barnard Street)

"Bracy Curtis offers for sale at Auction the Wm. B. Nason Farm (formerly known as the Currier Farm) situated a few rods east of Rev. Mr. Wells Meeting House, containing about 45 acres with Farm Buildings."

(The buildings were torn down a few years later.)

The Barnard Tavern, built about 1776, was occupied by him until his death, then by his widow, later by Timothy Frost, now by Col. Wm. L. Thompson. Henry Jordan lives in the house built by Benj. Simpson in 1816. Owen E. Burnham on the Samuel Gilpatrick farm. He built a new house in 1858. There is a handsome hedge on the north side of the road from the Jordan farm to the top of the hill. This was set out by Major Barnabas Palmer, who bought of the Kimballs'. It is now called the Hedge Farm. Major Palmer sold to Jacob Russell who built the

brick house in 1856-7. Joel Larrabee built on the opposite side in 1858. William Patten perhaps operates the sawmill.

The preceding pages *partially* describe Main Street and Saco Road as it was then called about 1860.

From the address of Mr. Walker and what we learn from the Town Histories, the western side of the river was nearly all a wilderness in 1790. Major William Jefferds had purchased of Dominicus Lord the house which he built in 1783 on the lot that he commenced to clear Apr. 19, 1775, and opened it as a Tavern. He also had a Fulling or Cloth Mill a few rods down the river. His wife was Olive, sister of Richard Gillpatrick, who had a blacksmith shop near the bridge and a small house near Jefferds'. There is an iron factory of some sort at the western end of the Lower Dam. This seems to indicate that the dam was built previous to 1790. Dominicus Lord lived in a small house on Pleasant Street, Major Nathaniel Cousens on the hill and Rev. Daniel Little on the Branch, or perhaps it would be better to say Harriseeket Road. This is about all that we know of the west side in 1790. We will mention a few of the events from that time to 1860.

In 1796 the road was laid out by the west side of the Jefferds Tavern to the Sea. (There may have been a path or trail there before.) High Street was laid out soon after 1800. The Turnpike was built about 1803 and 1804. How far York Street extended before that time I do not know. I do not know why the Turnpike was not built straight to Jefferds' Tavern. The building of it shortened the route to the western part of the Town and diverted the travel from Harriseeket.

Fletcher Street was laid out in 1797.

The Mill property and land of the Mousam Manf. Co. was purchased by Mr. Wm. Lord, June 29, 1854.

Brown Street was laid out by the Mousam Manf. Co. through their field in 1843-4-5 and accepted by the Town later. Edw. Pierson removed his Tannery from Curtis Lane to just below the western end of the lower dam in 1811. He erected the buildings now occupied by George Leach's Machine Shop (which was the Grist Mill of Jefferds and Gillpatrick) and the Planing, Sash, Blind and Door Mill of J. H. Ferguson & Co.

Major Jefferds enlarged the Tavern to its present dimensions in the late 1700's or early 1800's. The house of Richard Gillpatrick was enlarged and made one of the most elegant in Town. He sold to the Factory Company in 1825 and they converted it into two tenements. John Low built a house before 1800 opposite the



Tavern on High Street. This was sold about 1857 to Rev. J. A. Swan who enlarged and now occupies it.

Dr. Samuel Emerson built a house on Pleasant street in 1798 where he resided until his death in 1851. It was sold in 1855 to Joseph Parsons who occupies it. Alexander G. Fernald lives in the Major Cousens house. The date he bought it is unknown. Nathaniel Cousens, Jr., started a house in 1790 and sold to Joseph Thomas who finished it and lived there until his death in 1830. George Mendum now owns it. Nathaniel Mendum built about 1800. His widow and daughters now occupy it. His daughter, Lydia (Mrs. Putnam Hartshorn) has a private school in an upper room which I and many of that generation attended.

Rev. Nathaniel K. Sargent, an ex-Free Will Baptist preacher, removed to Kennebunk from Wells in 1833. He resides on the corner of High and Cross Streets. He is now a wheelwright and carriage builder. He built the first two hearses used in Kennebunk. The house of Capt. Joseph Hatch, Jr., was formerly the store of Joseph Storer. It was moved from the Triangle about 1830.

Soon after 1800 part of the Iron Works Factory at the western end of the lower dam was moved to the intersection of York and High Streets and became the blacksmith shop of Dimon Gillpatrick (son of Richard). He also built about that time, the large two-story house opposite on High street. He was succeeded in the shop and house by his sons, Daniel and Richard, who now occupy them. In a two-story building, west end near the street, was formerly the private school of Dimon's daughter, Olive Gilpatrick. After the sale of his factory property in 1825, Richard Gillpatrick built a house on Pleasant Street where he resided until his death in 1828. It is now occupied by his son-in-law, Judge Edw. E. Bourne. The Dominicus Lord house was long since removed.

Rev. Edmund Worth, pastor of the Baptist Church, came to Kennebunk in June, 1856. He lives in a house east of Judge Bourne, built by Edmund Lord, son of Dominicus, on the same site. The house of Timothy Varney on the corner of York and Friend Streets was probably built about 1840. He has a foundry and shop for the manufacture of plows and other agricultural implements. George W. Wallingford, Sr., built in 1804. It is occupied by Geo. W. Wallingford, Jr. The small one story building on the east corner of York and Friend Streets, now the office of Dr. N. E. Smart, was formerly the schoolhouse of the east side of the river and was used as such until the building of the Swan Street schoolhouse in 1856. Porter Sands, stage agent, built the

house on the corner of York and Swan Streets about 1826. He died in 1831. It was occupied from 1850 to 1858 by Rev. J. A. Swan, now by Dr. N. E. Smart. Mt. Pleasant burial ground was incorporated in 1843.

The building of the cotton factory in 1830-1-2 or 3 brought many new families into the village and it employed many persons. After it was burned in 1850 many of them had to remove to other places. A description of the mill, or what we know of it, will be given under Manufacturing.

The Stage Coach days made lively times in Kennebunk. The first coach was by Josiah Paine in 1810, Portland to Boston in two days. This being a success a company was formed as early as 1820. The Portland Stage Company was incorporated in 1824. Kennebunk was half way between Portland and Portsmouth and the east and west bound coaches crossed here at noon and stopped at Jefferds' Tavern for dinner and to change horses. Nathaniel M. Towle was then the landlord. Mr. Remich says in his History that twice each secular day both from the east and west coaches drawn by four horses rolled along the streets of the village often followed by one, two, and occasionally three, extras all loaded to the utmost capacity of the vehicle. As the horses were changed here much stable room and blacksmith work was required. I heard Edw. P. Burnham say in an address here, that one could go to Boston by the mail stage in 14 hours. The last coach from Portland to Portsmouth was Jan. 28, 1843.

The building of the P. S. & P. R. R. changed all this. Now there is only the coach to meet the trains, also a local coach daily from here to Saco via Kennebunkport, and one to Portsmouth every second day.

The preceding pages give some idea of what it was in 1860 and what the changes have been since 1790. It is a partial record of what others have seen. The riding horseback of the early days is now rarely seen. The one-horse-chaise and wagons of all descriptions have taken its place. The stage coaches which made the streets lively for nearly twenty years, have been superseded by the railroad train at Kennebunk Depot. Ox teams do nearly all of the teaming although horses are used on the road. Freight which used to come by Coaster to Kennebunkport now comes by train to Kennebunk Depot.

In the directory of 1860, following this chapter, the word "trader" is used. Nearly all of the storekeepers keep what was called a Country Store. They have a few dry goods, crockery, groceries, anything needed that will sell. They go to Boston Spring and Fall, for new goods. There are no traveling sales-

men. They will exchange barter or trade for butter, eggs, vegetables, poultry, wood or anything the farmer has to sell. A great many living in the village are farmers in a small way. They have a garden and perhaps a field a little outside which they cultivate. They keep a cow, a flock of hens, raise chickens, keep a pig, which grows by Fall into a hog and some take pride in raising a big one. It is killed when cold weather comes and if you wish, Norris Wiggin will smoke the hams and make you sausages. They get some farmer to come with his ox-team and plow their garden and field, haul out their dressing or fertilizer. If you have a wood lot, he also hauls the wood to your door. If you have a day's work you are expected to invite him to take dinner with you.

If you belong to the Fire Society you are required to have a ladder that will reach the roof, an ash safe in the cellar, two leather buckets and a bag. The inspector will call each year and if your equipment is not in order you are fined. Drovers of cattle and hogs are seen on Main Street traveling west to the Brighton Market. The drover will trade at any time. The tin peddler will furnish tin ware in exchange for rags and old iron. The soft soap peddler will furnish soap in exchange for wood ashes. Many make their own soap. If you do not own a wood lot you buy your cord wood of the farmer. Saw or hire some one to cut it into stove lengths. There is no coal.

Nearly all houses have two or three fireplaces and a brick oven. Most of the people have stoves but some still use the fireplace and oven. There is no ice. You keep your milk and vegetables in the cellar. The butcher sells meat from the cart; the milk dealer milk from the can if you do not keep a cow. You get your water from your well or go to your neighbor's. There are no sewers and no bath tubs.

Ox teams break the snow road in winter. You have a highway tax to work out on the road. Kerosene oil is just coming and will take the place of whale oil, fluid and candles. If you want to talk with your friends, go where they are. There are no telephones. This is a part of what Kennebunk was in 1860 as I saw it and remember it.

#### DIRECTORY OF KENNEBUNK, 1860

Town Clerk—George W. Wallingford.

Selectmen—Edw. W. Morton, Seth E. Bryant, Jos. A. Haley.

Treasurer—Andrew Walker.

Clergymen—Rev. Joshua A. Swan, Unitarian; Rev. Franklin Fellows, Orthodox; Rev. Edmund Worth, Baptist; Rev. A. R. Sylvester, Methodist.



Lawyers—Judge Edw. E. Bourne, Wm. B. Sewall, Joseph Dane, James M. Stone, Edw. E. Bourne, Jr.

Physicians—N. E. Smart, Orren Ross, Lemuel Richards, Edw. W. Morton, Chas. M. Sweat.

Ocean Bank—Joseph Titcomb, President; Christopher Littlefield, Cashier.

School Teachers—Timothy B. Ross, Grammar; Misses Kimball and Taylor, Primary. Miss Gilman and Miss Mendum, private schools.

Post Master—William Fairfield.

Traders—John Cousens, John Osborn & Co., Isaac Furbush, Edw. C. Frost, William Downing, Benj. Perkins, George W. Hardy, Samuel Clark, John Cobby, Alvin Stevens, Chas. L. Dresser, Joseph Getchell, Col. Wm. L. Thompson, Daniel Remich, Andrew Walker, Palmer Walker, Phineas Stevens, Charles Herrick, L. K. & J. Wells, Julia Webber, William Safford; Simon L. Whitten, tailor; Dr. L. Richards, apothecary.

Contractors and Builders—Benaiah Littlefield & Sons, Kimball and Day.

Blacksmiths—Daniel and Richard Gilpatric, —, — Kenney, John Downing, Benj. Furbush.

Foundry and Plow Manf.—Timothy Varney and Sons.

Carriage Maker and Wheelwright—Rev. N. K. Sargent, Alfred Littlefield, Dan'l Durrell.

Furniture and Coffins—Paul Junkins, J. W. Sargent.

Machine Shop—George Leach.

Planing Mill, Sash, Blinds, Doors and Mouldings—John H. Ferguson & Co.

Saw Mill—Samuel Clark.

?

Carriage Painter—Joseph Sargent.

House Painters—Nathan Cook, William Hubbard.

Brick Masons and Plasterers—Hosea Goodwin, James B. Gray, Richard Berry.

Stone Masons—Stephen Cleaves, Frank Goodwin.

Grist Mill—Sam'l Kimball.

Baker—Jos. Kimball.

Insurance—Wm. F. Lord.

Milk—A. Fernald, N. Dane, Jr.

Hotel Keepers—B. F. Goodwin, Edmund Warren.

Boot and Shoe Maker—Capt. Sam'l Littlefield.

Stage Drivers—W. H. Hall, Ithama Littlefield, Isaac Farwell.

Sexton and Hearse Driver—Eben Huff.

Civil Engineer—L. K. Dorrance.

Fruit Trees and Nursery—Geo. W. Wallingford.



Lumber Surveyor—George Mendum.

Butchers—N. N. Wiggin, P. C. Wiggin.

Trucking from Kennebunk Depot—James Littlefield.

York Lodge Free Masons—Stephen Perkins, W. M.

Mousam Lodge, I. O. O. F., George W. Wallingford, N. G.

## CHAPTER III

## KENNEBUNK IN 1930—SOME OF THE CHANGES SINCE 1860

The Paper dated 1790 was the recollections of three aged persons given 75 years after the time that they described. The Paper 1860 is an attempt to describe how it looked then and to note some of the changes from 1790 as far as they could be obtained from the Town Histories, journals, records and other sources. That Paper was written in 1930. As a sequel to that Paper I will attempt to write a partial record of the 70 years from that time, during which time I have seen many changes. This will be from memory, journals, papers, and from other residents. I think that dates will be correct. If in doubt I say "about."

I will start as in 1860 at the southwest corner of the bridge over Mousam River. The bronze Tablet on the Electric Light post is the exact corner of the counting room of the Mousam Manf. Co., built in 1832. It was razed about 1920. It was used for a private school in the 1860's; by the Union Lace Co. as a dye house; as a carriage mart; the photograph studio of C. S. Gurney; the Paper Mill used it for storage; the Ebonine Mfg. Co. used the basement and a part of the main floor. This site was vacant until 1933 when Jones' Diner was established.

The bridges are described in another chapter.

At the east end of the bridge in 1869 was the Old Grist Mill. It was torn down and a part of the building removed to Water Street. It may be well to say here, although mentioned in another Paper, that all of the Mill property was owned by Mr. Wm. Lord from 1854 until Dec. 22, 1863, when he sold to Capt. N. L. Thompson, Jos. Dane and Jos. Titcomb. Capt. Thompson erected a new grist mill in 1869 which was burned May 3, 1903. The site is vacant. Water Street was formerly very near the mill. About 1877 the location was changed several rods east making a straight road to the front of the Leatherboard Mill. To the corner lot thus formed was removed about 1882 the building which in 1860 I called Ivory Cousens' store and tenement. It was occupied several years by Chas. Sleeper as a restaurant. It was then moved across Water Street and was the Old Corner Grocery of George E. Cousens. It was destroyed by fire May 3, 1903. On the same site J. Hiram Cousens had a small shop and Alvin Moody a photograph saloon. All burned May 3. In 1912, N. L. Thompson, Jr., built the present block, Thompson's-at-the-Bridge. It is now occupied by Baitler's Restaurant and Nichols & Co. Dry Goods.

On the east corner of Water Street there was in 1860 a store built by Sam'l Clark. This was purchased about 1870 by John Roberts, removed up Main Street to the vacant lot east of the White Store and will be described later. The next store had several tenants. Capt. Claudius Williams and Mark H. Ford, who after trading many years, removed the building to Pleasant Street in the early 1890's, and converted it into a dwelling house.

On or near its site was moved a small building in 1895 which was the coal office of W. E. Warren. This also burned in 1903.

On the corner after the fire Geo. E. Cousens built the new Old Corner Grocery store, now an A. & P. Store. There is a tenement in the second story. In the Wise yard after the fire B. F. Whitcomb built a photograph studio. It was used as such several years. Now it is Gonnevill's Market. The Wise house is owned by their heirs. The small building on the Mason lot, before mentioned (built before 1790) was bought in 1878 by H. F. Curtis and removed to the corner of Main and Fletcher Streets.

The Michael Wise house, built in 1792, had several tenants. Some time in the 1870's Capt. John Frank Mason, the owner, removed from Kennebunkport and occupied it several years. In 1878 he built the Mason block. There are three stores on the first floor, offices in the second. The eastern store was occupied by William Downing until his death in 1898, then by his daughter, Mrs. Ida Elwell, now by his nephew, Edward I. Downing, who now owns the block. Soon after building the block Capt. Mason returned to Kennebunkport, where he died Oct. 14, 1879. The property then came into the possession of his daughter, Mrs. Jennie L. Moody of Kennebunkport and Brunswick. She sold all except the block to Edgar C. Damon who owned it several years and had different tenants. During this time a small building was erected east of the house and was the jewelry store of J. William Barker. His last tenant in the house was Asa Seavey. In the summer of 1895 Damon sold all this property to Mousam Lodge, I. O. O. F. Seavey was notified to vacate, failing to do so he was evicted. The store that had been occupied by Barker was sold to W. E. Warren as described. The Wise house was moved back and remodeled for two tenements. After a few years sold to C. H. Lucas. He sold it to Dr. F. M. Ross. It is now owned by his heirs.

On the site of the Wise house of 1792 and of the blacksmith shop of Dominicus Lord before that and in line with the sidewalk, was erected in 1895 the I O. O. F. block, three-story wood building. On the first floor are three stores which have been occupied by Geo. and F. W. Bonser, Nevin, Raino, Balch, Christie, Trafton



and perhaps others. In the second story has been the barber shop of A. P. Keane, now the Telephone Exchange; the law office of A. E. Haley, later the wall-paper salesroom of W. F. Brian, the dental parlors of Drs. H. M. Yorke, A. C. Merriman and E. R. Hackett. There has been an Odd Fellows' club on the back side for a number of years, and there is now an apartment also. The third story is the lodge room, banquet hall, kitchen and ante rooms of Mousam Lodge, Pine Tree Encampment and Olive Rebekah Lodge. These rooms were dedicated May 8, 1896.

The old Wise store became the property of J. W. Sargent, either purchased by him or by his father of the Mason heirs. He remodeled it about 1878 and it was leased to Geo. P. Lowell for a restaurant. In the second story, sleeping rooms. The carpenter's shop on the corner was purchased by Dr. F. M. Ross and remodeled for an Apothecary store and office. This building and the Sargent building were destroyed by fire April 30, 1881. On the site of these two buildings was erected in the fall of 1881 the Sargent Ross Block, a two-story wooden block with a mansard roof. In the first story, western end, was the Post Office, removing from what is now the News Stand. A. W. Mendum, Post Master. The middle store was occupied by J. H. Otis, papers and stationery. The eastern end was the Apothecary store and office of Dr. F. M. Ross. In the second were club rooms and offices. The Kennebunk Library's first reading room was in this block. In the third story was the lodge room of Mousam Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Webster Post, G. A. R. The Post vacated their rooms in 1883 and they were occupied by the Eastern Star Printing Co. until 1888 when they removed to Water Street and the I. O. O. F. lodges occupied all of the third floor. On the morning of March 5, 1895, the block was destroyed by fire. The Lodge record books in a safe were all that was saved from the second and third stories. Mr. Sargent had died before this time and his widow owned the Wise lot. She sold to Dr. Ross who erected the same year on the site of both lots the present brick Ross Block. It was built only two stories at that time. The Post Office was in the eastern end with Dr. Ross' office in the rear. Middle store occupied by J. H. Otis; western end, Geo. W. Larabee, hardware. The Post Office remained in this block until 1912 when it was removed to its present location. The east corner is now the Apothecary store of V. G. Fiske. The middle store had several tenants. The western end was occupied by G. W. Larabee until 1932 and he also occupied several rooms in the second story, offices in the east end.

In 1901 a third story was added for the Masonic bodies and it

was dedicated May 28, 1902. Dr. Ross' estate sold the block in 1928 to E. C. Snowdon.

Grove Street, formerly only a lane to the house of Ralph Curtis, now winds around Centennial Hill and connects with Park Street. About 1906 H. F. Curtis purchased the Osborn house on the site of the present Library building, and removed it to the lot back of the Ross block on Grove Street.

The house on the eastern corner of Grove Street was occupied by Benj. Smith, Jr., until his death in 1875. It was sold the next year to Dr. Orren Ross and was occupied by him until the marriage of his son, Dr. F. M. Ross, in 1880. It then became the latter's residence where he lived until his death in 1927. He made many improvements in and around the house and grounds, among others the erection of a tower and windmill in 1892 which supplied water to the house and block also a drinking fountain on Main Street. (This tower was razed in 1929.) The estate was sold in 1928 to the Baitlers who remodeled the house and built a large addition. Also remodeled the grounds in the rear on Grove Street. It is now known as The Tavern.

Woodbury A. Hall bought the Safford house in 1870 and lived there until his death, June 13, 1922. He kept a boarding house and livery stable there, at Kennebunk Beach and Kennebunkport. His daughter, Mrs. Irving Emmons, sold the estate in 1928 to Mrs. Wm. Hobbs, who now occupies it. The Brown house has had several tenants. The last was Ernest A. Bodge who operated a filling station, auto supplies and an auto hospital.

The Bryant house was sold a little before 1900 and moved down the lane. It is now owned by the Fletchers and is known as the Blue Wave. On the site of the Bryant house Dr. David B. Cridford built the present house about 1900. It was later sold to Mrs. Pierce who resided there until her death. It is now owned by Mabel Joy.

The Richard Littlefield house was sold to Solomon Record who resided there until his death in 1895. It had several tenants. It was sold about 1920 to Dr. A. J. Stimpson. It is now his residence and office. The lane formerly extended only to the house occupied by George W. Hardy. It now extends to the Blue Wave and is also the entrance to the Playground, foot travelers only. The Hardy house was sold to Capt. T. S. Nason who resided there until his death. It is now a part of John W. Bowdoin's estate.

The Baptist vestry was built in 1873 near Main Street. It has been moved and connected with the basement. Joseph Dane occupied the Mitchell house until 1866 when he sold it to the Or-

thodox Society for a parsonage and it has since been occupied by their ministers.

There have been changes in the long building. Richard C. Raynes died in 1880. It was occupied by his widow and other tenants. Maj. Barnabas Palmer of the eastern end died in 1867 and that part was sold to Capt. N. L. Thompson. He sold the addition, or ell, to N. N. Wiggin, who removed it to Barnard street where with additions it became his residence. The east end had several tenants. In 1907 the Town bought both lots for a High school site. Later it was not considered suitable and it was sold at auction in 1908 to Mrs. Potter. She has remodeled it and it is now known as the Snapdragon Inn, for summer tourists.

Capt. Abram Hill occupied the next house until his death in 1893. It is now owned by Mrs. Lotta McAlpine, who deals in antiques. The Frost house of 1799 now occupied by Wm. O. Littlefield and his sister, Mrs. Howe, and the Kimball house of 1795, now occupied by Dr. J. H. Macdonald, are described with other old house.

Dane Street—There have been many changes in the square from Dane to Green Streets and back on both streets to the Congregational Church property which now extends from Dane to Green Street. Don Chamberlin owns all except the Barry Block, including the house on Dane Street built about 1830, by John T. Kimball which he bought about 1920 and now occupies. I will note some changes in the stores.

The White Store (I use the old name) has had many different tenants. It has been the tailor shop of Messrs Whitten, Roberts and Bragdon; the apothecary store of Geo. W. Wallingford and Dr. John R. Haley; hardware store of Stephen Perkins. Also it has had a barber's shop, Littlefield & Webber, groceries, followed in 1932 by a chain store. In the second story David McKenney had a harness shop and it has been a tenement with entrance on Dane, now the entrance is from Main Street. About 1870 John Roberts removed the store formerly of Sam'l Clark, corner of Main and Water Streets to the vacant lot east of the White Store and it was a meat store. Later P. C. Wiggin used it for the same purpose. Roberts sold it to Charles Sleeper about 1883 who altered and improved it, and it was his restaurant until 1906 when he sold to Don Chamberlin who used it for an Auto Supply store, residing in the second story. He also had a repair shop below the old barn on Dane Street. He still occupies the store. Andrew Walker continued in the furniture business until 1888 when he gave the building and lot to the Kennebunk



Library Association (organized Apr. 24, 1882). The building was formally dedicated Oct. 28, 1888, by exercises in Mousam Hall. It was used by the Library Association until the present building was dedicated in Old Home Week, Aug. 2, 1907. It was then for several years the shoe store of Jesse Ham. It is now owned and occupied by Chamberlin.

The brick block is owned by the Barry Brothers. It was occupied by Isaac Furbish, general store, then by Capt. T. S. Nason, groceries. Since about 1907 it has been the office of the Mousam Water Co., now the Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Wells Water District. The second story has been used by the I. O. O. F., Good Templars and the Rotary Club, now vacant. There is a back entrance from Dane Street.

The Remich store had many tenants: Mr. Remich, Mrs. Oakes, Mrs. Chesley, Wm. H. Simonds, F. W. Nason. It is now an apartment. The Palmer Walker store was occupied by him until his death in 1878. His brother converted it into a tenement and lived there until his death in 1899. The first story is now Chamberlin's Auto Show Rooms. The second story is a tenement.

The three-story Warren Block of 1818 was bought by Chamberlin when the corner was being cleared for the Town hall site in 1921, and moved across Green Street. The first story is a garage, the second and third are apartments with the entrance between the Remich and Walker buildings. Back of the brick block on Green Street is the large auto repair shop of Chamberlin extending to the Congregational Church lot.

Green Street—The Warren Block was occupied several years after 1860 by William Downing, then by F. P. Hall, groceries, followed by Fairfield and Littlefield. Dr. Richards was in the apothecary store until his death in 1887. There have been several different tenants in each store. The rooms in the second and third stories have had several tenants. The Masons vacated the third story in 1888. The building was moved in 1921 as just described.

There have been many changes in owners and occupants in the square bounded by Summer, Green and Elm Streets. All of it except the house on the corner of Green and Elm Streets have been purchased by Mr. Henry Parsons and given to the Town for the Town Hall site and grounds. The Phineas Stevens house on Green Street, the Old Store house, tenement and Engine house on Summer Street were removed in 1921, and the present handsome Town Hall erected. The corner stone was laid Oct. 29, 1921, with appropriate ceremonies. A few years later Mr. Parsons purchased the houses of Mrs. Littlefield, Huff and Webber on the

corner of Summer and Elm Streets. They were removed, the grounds graded and presented to the town. All the grounds are now under the control of the Park Commission.

*Back to the Bridge*

Upper Side going East. In 1869 Capt. Thompson erected a building over the head gates of the flume, west end of the bridge. A few years later it was moved nearer the street in order to operate the gates outside the building. The first story has been a store and a barber's shop, the second a tenement.

The Warp Mill is described in another chapter. The Ivory Cousens store was moved back and later across the street. The Cook Paint shop is back of the A. & P. John Cousens moved his store across Storer Street in 1870 and in 1886 to Pleasant Street where it is a tenement.

On the west corner of Main and Storer Streets the Kennebunk Mill Co. built in 1877 a shoe shop, also described elsewhere. The western end of the Triangle was vacant from 1858 to 1870 except the hay scales. In 1887 Frank Parsons and his sister, Mrs. L. M. Perkins, built a three-story block on the western end. The first floor was the hardware store of L. M. Perkins, afterwards of H. E. Lunge and the apothecary store of A. W. Meserve with the office of the American Express Co. in the back end. In the second story were offices. In the third story was the lodge rooms of York Lodge and Murray R. A. Chapter. These rooms were dedicated March 12, 1888, in one of the most severe snow storms of recent years. The Masons removed to the Ross Block in 1902. This building was destroyed by fire May 3, 1903. It was rebuilt by Lunge and Meserve and occupied by them several years; now by Robt. T. Cole, hardware, and B. K. Murdock, apothecary.

The Dresser store was occupied by him until his death in 1906. It was badly damaged by the fire of 1903, then remodeled and was the Daylight Store of his son, Wm. M. Dresser until 1909 when he sold part to Howard C. Wakefield, later the balance and block. The store is now owned by Chas. W. Hamilton and still operates as the Daylight store.

A Description of the Triangle.—The owners and occupants of the different stores and date of changes would require considerable research. We give only a partial list of changes from 1860 to 1930. Sam'l Clark built east of the Dresser store about 1870, removing from the corner of Water Street. About 1880 he added a third story in which was a hall for Myrtle Lodge, K. of P. Col. Wm. L. Thompson had a flour and grain store for several years after 1860. Ithama Littlefield, succeeded by his son-in-law, Robt. A. Kimball, was in some of these store until about 1878.



Parker C. Wiggin purchased about 1883 a store which he painted blue—hence the name, the Blue Store. This he occupied for a meat store for many years. He died in 1913. It is now and has been for a long time a restaurant, operated by several different parties. William Downing was in the store next to Dresser's until the building of the Mason Block. F. W. Nason has been in a store on the Triangle since about 1900. George Bonser was in some of these stores until the I. O. O. F. Block was built. John H. Otis started a paper and stationery store in a small store next to the Blue Store. Christopher Littlefield built a store between the Blue Store and Getchell's, probably in the early 1870's, which was occupied by his son, John G., groceries, and by Geo. Tibbetts, boots and shoes. Later these stores have been occupied by Miss Boothby, Miss Jellison, Geo. R. Smith and I do not know how many others. Joseph Getchell continued in the stove and tin plate business for many years followed by his son, John. The store was bought by George L. Little, in 1889, remodeled and was the jewelry store of his son-in-law, Geo. W. Frost. The second story was a lawyer's office. It was damaged by fire March 8, 1923.

Curtis & Roberts Block was built in 1923 and was occupied by them until 1927 then by Gordon & Hutchins, grocers, and now by C. H. Cole & Sons, insurance. On the street floor also are the D'Ascanio shoe store and the W. B. Russell barber shop. In the second story are offices.

The Town Pump at the eastern end of the Triangle was replaced by a drinking fountain. Now that is gone.

Garden Street.—In 1860 the terraced lawn and garden of Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr., extended to this street. After Parsons Street was laid out about 1891 on the corner was the paint shop of Wm. C. Berry, who still occupies it. On the east corner of Parsons Street was erected in 1929 the Kennebunk Star Printing office, removing from Water Street. In the second story are tenements. The Dr. Orren Ross house was occupied by him until his death in 1881, since then it has had several different tenants. The Cobby store was used by him until his death. Afterwards, Geo. P. Lowell was there. After the burning of the Sargent and Ross Block the Post Office was in that building until the Ross Block was finished. It was afterwards used by Brown and Chase, groceries. It is now the grocery store of Arthur Chase.

Lane.—Wm. Fairfield bought the corner store. He sold kitchen utensils, etc. His tenement was the rear of the store and in the second story. He also had a livery stable in the lane. After his death in 1916 it was sold to John W. Lord who has a hardware store there. The store on the east corner was occupied by Fair-

field until he bought the west corner. It has had many occupants. Now Norton & Harden, electrical supplies. The house formerly occupied by Christopher Littlefield was purchased by John W. Bowdoin and in 1912 it was raised, a story built underneath it and the piazza now in front, built. The western end is the Post Office, eastern end was the apothecary store of J. W. Bowdoin, now owned by his estate. The second and third stories were used as a club room by the Lafayette club several years. They are now apartments.

The carpenter shop next is now a tenement and bake shop, also entrance to the Acme Theatre (moving pictures) which was built about . After the Post Office removed from the next building in 1882, Miss Rice had a fancy goods store there for several years. The Mousam Water Co. used it for an office from 1895 to about 1907. About it was remodded and it is now Waddington's News Stand, first story. The second story is the law offices of Ralph Andrews and Harold H. Bourne.

John Cousens occupied his house until his death in 1894, then his son-in-law, Stillman F. Rice. He died in 1912, and his daughter now owns it. The eastern end has had many tenants. Wm. B. Sewall lived in the Parsons house until his death, March 4, 1869, aged 86. At the death of Mrs. Sewall she devised the property to her nephew, Edw. E. Bourne, Jr. Dec. 1, 1894, it came into the possession of his son, Herbert E. Bourne who now occupies it. In 1891 Myrtle Lodge, K. of P., purchased the Main Street end of the Sewall field and erected the Pythian Block, two story, mansard roof. In the first story were the stores of Dr. George W. Bourne and brother, Benj. N. Bourne, sold to J. W. Bowdoin; and the stores of Geo. P. Lowell and A. W. Bragdon. There have been since then a number of different tenants. At the present time the tenants are The Spiller Elec. Co., N. Harden Davis and Hay's Tailoring establishment. On the second floor rear was the Uniform Rank Hall. In the front a hall which has been used by the G. A. R., Good Templars and others. The third floor was the lodge room of Myrtle Lodge. In 1919 the upper story was badly damaged by fire and was entirely remodeled.

In 1893 Geo. P. Lowell built a two tenement house in the rear of the block on Bourne Street. Capt. John Hill continued to reside on the east corner of Bourne Street until his death in 1879. His widow died Dec. 30, 1904, and devised the property to the Baptist Society for a parsonage and it has since been occupied by their ministers until 1930 when it was sold or leased for a filling station, and the house has been torn down this year.

The Porter house was sold in 1890 to Edw. E. Bourne, Jr. His

heirs sold to Harry E. Lunge in 1910. Lunge built an auto show room, west and a little back from the street, with a filling station in front; garage in the stable. He died in 1930 and his widow and son occupy it. Palmer Walker lived in his house until his death in 1878. It was sold in 1879 to Charles R. Littlefield who made many alterations including the front bay windows. In 1917 he sold to Dr. D. M. Small who built an office and dental rooms on the eastern side. He now occupies house and office.

Capt. Edward Nason sold to Stephen Perkins in 1869. He lived there until his death in 1886. His widow lived there some years, later Mrs. Ferrin. About 1912 it was sold to Dr. E. S. Hawkes who now occupies it. The front room of the Hartwell house was used a number of years by Miss Martha Hartwell for the sale of fancy articles. The house was sold in 1890 to George L. Little who altered it for a residence for his son-in-law, Geo. W. Frost. It was sold in 1903 to S. T. Griffin and now occupied by Mrs. Griffin.

December 3, 1869, the flames again swept through the walls of the Old Brick Building and this time even the walls crumbled. The Mousam House Annex on the eastern end, stables, store and warehouse of Paul Junkins on Fletcher Street were all burned flat. The tenants were about as in 1860 except that Nathan Dane, Jr., had succeeded Edwin C. Frost. The Mousam House was vacant, B. F. Goodwin having removed to the Jefferds Tavern April 10, 1861. The Ocean National Bank built a brick banking house on the western end of the lot in 1870. The Savings Bank Annex was built about 1903. This building was used until 1929 when it was razed and the present handsome building erected.

On the eastern end the hay scales were removed and the blacksmith shop of Benj. Furbush from Portland Street was moved there and operated by Jacob Stewart. It was destroyed by fire Jan. 3, 1883. In 1878 H. F. Curtis owned the lot and moved there the small building from the Mason lot (before described). This was used by the Misses Wood as a millinery store, and as a lawyer's office by W. L. Dane. About 1886 or 7 it traveled back down Main Street into the lane back of the Post Office and was the machine shop of Geo. W. Williams. It is now the plumber shop of B. B. Wildes. The shop formerly of Safford on the opposite side of the street was moved to this lot and was the meat shop of Chas. C. Perkins. It was afterward moved to Bourne Street and is the house of W. P. Allison, Jr. The Geo. W. Hardy store was also moved across Fletcher Street. It was used by Miss Georgia Parsons for a private school room and as a photo-



graph studio. It is now the two apartment house next to the Engine House.

The Engine House on Fletcher Street was built in 1889. The Osborn store was moved across Fletcher Street in 1887 and used as a grocery store by Chas. H. Cole. The second story was the G. A. R. Hall, later Hill's Studio. The building was torn down a little after 1900. The site was purchased for a Soldiers' Monument which was erected and the monument dedicated Oct. 24, 1908. A Memorial Tablet for World War Veterans was also erected and dedicated Nov. 11, 1920. This corner is now a part of the Park System. One of the cannon here used to be a corner post of the present Post Office building. It was brought from sea by Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr. It was dug up and fired the day that the news came of Lee's surrender, under the direction of Capt. Wm. Symonds.

Fletcher Street.—John Osborn died in 1861. The store continued to be used by his brother James until his death in 1876, having been in the family about 61 years. After his death it had several occupants before it was moved across the street: Buzzell, stoves; Chas. H. Tarbox, meat, perhaps others. The Safford shop was used by John E. Staples, a marble worker, followed by C. H. Lucas. This shop and the Hardy store were moved and have been described. An old house by the side of the store was torn down. Sidney T. Fuller purchased the Osborn house, moved it back, built small additions and made two apartments. It was afterwards purchased by H. F. Curtis, who moved it on rollers down Main Street to Grove Street. It is the first house back of the Ross Block. Probably this was the last building of any size to travel Main Street. It used to be of frequent occurrence.

The corner lot was purchased by Mr. George Parsons who erected the Library Building and presented it to the Kennebunk Library Association. It was dedicated in Old Home Week, Aug. 2, 1907. The old schoolhouse was used until the erection of the Grove Street house in 1884. It was razed about 1926. The Business Girls Club House was erected in 1926 by Mr. Henry Parsons. It is a little back of where the schoolhouse stood, with an entrance from Fletcher Street.

The Church looks much the same outside as in 1860. The fences are gone and the lawn extends to the Library lot. The hearse was sold to C. H. Lucas and the hearse house as it was called is a part of the Church kitchen. The Town Pump was replaced by a drinking fountain. Now that is gone and the flag pole is gone. The Centennial Elm planted in 1876 is enclosed by a granite curbing. The plot is a part of the Park System.



The building known as Washington Hall was destroyed by fire Nov. 25, 1866. The town purchased the lot and in 1867-8 erected a Town Hall. The Town owned the first story. The second story, which was built partly by subscription, was called Mousam Hall and sometimes Mousam Opera House. The Hall was dedicated Oct. 1, 1868. The Town purchased the shares of the subscribers to the Hall in 1892. The Hall was enlarged and a horse-shoe shaped gallery built. The brick of which the building was constructed were made below the Paper Mill. There was a detailed and itemized account of the building, the subscribers and amounts given, written by Mr. Jos. Titcomb, printed in the Star March 22, 1889. The Hall was destroyed by fire March 19, 1920. It would have been rebuilt on the same lot but for the gift of Mr. Henry Parsons. The lot was graded and it, also, is a part of the Park System.

George E. Cousens lives in the Dr. Rice house which was occupied by his mother and grandmother. The Methodist Church has had many improvements. The handsome entrance to Hope Cemetery was erected by Mr. Hartley Lord in 1904. A small receiving tomb was built in 1863, the present one in 1905. Just beyond starts the three-lane cement road which now extends to Biddeford.

Bertelle A. Smith purchased the Osborn house about 1900 and resides there. The heirs of Capt. Thomas Lord sold the former Parsonage to Hiram Waterhouse about 1886. It is now the residence of his grandson, Homer T. Waterhouse. William Day owns the old Barnard Tavern, which was occupied many years by Daniel Curtis. There is a greenhouse in the corner of the Jordan field built in 1930 by Archie Turner. Also an airport on the east side of the Wonderbrook field graded in 1930 by Alva Smith. There are several new houses and new owners to the old ones, filling stations and auto repair shops. William Bartlett still operates the Saw Mills and has a store near the mill. (He died in 1931.) The store is now operated by his grandson, Robert Bartlett.

*West Side, 1930*

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The greatest change on the West side has been by the side of the river. In 1860 there was the Counting Room of the Mousam Mfg. Co., the ruins of the old Cotton Factory. The old Pierson buildings became the machine shop of George Leach (the Grist Mill of Jefferds and Gilpatrick) and the Planing, Sash, Blind and Door Factory of J. H. Ferguson & Co.

Dec. 22, 1863, all of the mill and land property of the Mousam Mfg. Co. was sold by Mr. Lord to Capt. N. L. Thompson, Jos.

Dane and Jos. Titcomb for \$31,000.00. It soon after came into the control of Capt. Thompson. There was no change on the western side until 1878 when the mill for Griffin and Reed was built. They remained until 1878 when they removed to Lake Village, N. H. The mill was used from that time until 1896 for various purposes (described in another Chapter).

The Paper Mill department of the Leatheroid began in 1896 and the mill has since had that name, and many additional buildings have been added. The counting room was razed in 1918, the mill in 1922, the Dirigo Buildings in 1932. Now there is nothing left but ruins, except that on the corner of Brown Street is an Auto Filling Station and Jones' Diner is on the site of the Counting room.

About 1867-8 there was a Brick Yard below the Mills. The brick used in the first Town Hall were made there. In 1860 the last house on Brown Street was that of Horace and Ivory Fernald. Now there are houses on each side to the end of the street and far down the Sea Road. The Old Boarding House, formerly the residence of Richard Gillpatrick, was destroyed by fire Dec. 10, 1884. On its site John Ricker built the house now owned by Hartley Storer. Samuel Clark sold his house to William Downing and about 1866 bought the Nathaniel Jefferds house which his heirs afterward sold to Frank Roberts. Wm. Downing's son-in-law, J. O. Elwell, built and operated a greenhouse back of the house. It is now operated by Alexander Burr. The Jefferds Tavern became the Mousam House April 10, 1861, and has since been called by that name. (See Old Houses.)

Rev. J. A. Swan purchased the Capt. Low house in 1858 removing there from the corner of York and Swan Streets. He made additions and improvements. Since his death the Unitarian ministers have resided there. In 1890 Mrs. Swan gave it to the Society for a Parsonage. The Gilpatric Blacksmith Shop was operated until about 1877. It was razed about 1887 and on its site in 1889 Oscar Clark erected a block—store and tenements. George Varney erected a large two-story building for his wood working department in front of the Foundry. It is now the Antique Store of F. B. Tuck. There are new houses on York Street nearly to the Turnpike and several west of it near the Pumping Station of the Water District which pumps Branch Brook water to Ogunquit, Kennebunk and as far as Biddeford Pool.

There are several auto repair garages and filling stations along the way, which is a three-lane cement road from about Swan Street to Kittery Bridge. The Nathaniel Mendum house was taken down, removed from High Street and rebuilt in its old form west of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery about 1890.

The Sea Road, as it used to be called, is now Day Street. Hall Street extends from York to Day. Both have houses. The extension of the Electric R. R. in 1906 changed and greatly improved the Tavern Hill (as it used to be called). They followed York Street to the woods, then parallel with the Turnpike and a short distance from it to Wells.

On High Street the Gilpatrick house was made a two tenement before 1880, and several new ones have been built. Last, but not least, Pleasant Street. I do not know when it was named. It was the principal road to Wells and the West before 1803. It has had many changes. Joseph Barnard who drove the first passenger wagon (as it was called) over this road in 1787, would hardly know where he was now. There are several new houses by the side of the river. Rev. Edmund Worth continued in the Lord house until his death in 1895. It was sold to Willis Hill whose wife was a granddaughter of Edmund Lord who built the house. She still occupies it. Judge Bourne resided in the Gillpatrick house until his death in 1873. It was sold to A. E. Haley who died in 1910. It is now owned by his heirs. There are several new houses beyond. E. I. Downing owns the Jos. Thomas house. Mrs. Frank Parsons owns the Dr. Emerson house. The Maj. Cousens house and farm was bought by Jos. Parsons about 1874. A few years later the house was torn down and the hill graded. There is now no trace of what was once about the first house built on that side of the river. Mr. Parsons also purchased the two tenement house at the intersection of Pleasant and High streets and removed it up nearly to the Cat Mousam Road, making on its site a small park.

The left side of Pleasant Street from the Parsonage to Cross Street is all built over. Mrs. L. M. Perkins built in the Mendum field about 1890, the Mendum house being removed to York Street. The Standpipe of the Water District is between High and York Streets and can be seen a long distance. There are many houses on each side of the Sanford Road quite a distance beyond Sunken Brook and up Cat Mousam Road to Jones' Hill.

In the 70 years from 1860 to 1930 fire has caused many changes in and near Main Street. The burning of Washington Hall in 1866 was followed by the building on the same lot of the Town Hall in 1867 which was also destroyed by fire in 1920. The Old Brick Block and adjacent buildings at the corner of Main and Fletcher Streets, 1824 and 1869, made a great change on that corner. The burning of the Academy building in 1870 resulted in a new brick school building. The loss of Dr. Ross' store and the Sargent buildings in 1881 was followed by the erection of



the Sargent Ross block in the Fall and Winter of 1881-2. This lasted 14 years and March 5, 1895 it also went up in smoke. This was followed by the building of the Ross and I. O. O. F. blocks. In 1884 the old Boarding House on Brown Street, formerly the homestead of Richard Gillpatrick, was also burned. In 1888 the Planing Mill, occupied by J. H. Ferguson and Co., at the west end of the Lower Dam, and the Saw Mill on the east end were destroyed.

In 1903 the largest fire ever known in the Village destroyed the buildings on the corners of Main, Storer and Water Streets and made many changes. In 1923 the fire on the east end of the Triangle was followed by the erection of the Curtis and Roberts block. There have been many other and smaller fires in the near vicinity which have caused other changes.

The ox teams of 1860 and later years have all disappeared: It would be hard to find an ox team in town. Horses were used after oxen but they are scarce now. Bicycles were popular about 1895; now few except children use them. The Sanford and Cape Poise Electric Railroad laid their rails about 1898 and in 1906 extended them to York. Their rails were on Main, Fletcher, Storer, Water and York Streets and they carried many passengers and much freight for more than twenty years. Now their rails have been taken up and they are almost forgotten. The automobile began to come soon after 1900 and now they do all the business, both pleasure riding and freight. Motor trucks of all kinds, shapes and sizes carry everything, short or long distance hauls, at all hours of day and night.

The big auto busses remind you of the old stage coach days, only there is no stop here for dinner. In the summer Main Street is crowded. Now the red and green light has taken the place of the traffic officer and the blinker.

The electric wires from the Town Plant furnish light for street and house. If you want to run a lathe, saw or other machine you can get the power from an electric wire. It will run your stove to cook, or your Frigidaire to keep food cool. If you want to talk with your friends use the telephone. If they are out of town use long distance. Branch Brook will furnish you with water from Ogunquit to Biddeford Pool and the sewer will carry off the waste water. If you want the news of a ball game, the nominating speeches at a political convention, a sermon on Sunday, a concert or almost anything, use the radio. If you want amusement, go to a movie. The A. & P. or chain store will furnish you with bread, meat, vegetables, green or canned, in tin or glass. Your milk comes in glass jars. The coal truck, oil tank,



wood cart (stove length) will furnish you fuel. The clothing store has all kinds and sizes of ready-to-wear clothes and underwear. Or the Mail Order Houses will send you almost anything by parcel post, and your mail is delivered to your house. The laundry truck will call for your soiled clothes and return them renovated. The undertaker has an ambulance for use in case of accident as well as at your funeral.

## CHAPTER FOUR

## ROAD FROM WELLS

The road from the Western part of Wells to that part of the Town then known as Kennebunk at about the time of the Revolution was very nearly in the same location as the three-lane cement road of 1932. That was straightened a little, the culverts and bridges raised and hills cut down. The traveler on arriving at Cole's Corner or the Town End as it was then called, had the choice of two routes: by the seashore following the King's Highway, fording or ferrying Little and Mousam Rivers. At the west of the last named there may be a path through the woods to the Village, but no road was laid out until 1796. The first road from the Beach probably leads by the Larrabee Garrison to the Boat Landing and to Water Street. The exact route perhaps would be hard to locate now. If the left hand route was taken, it was over Cole's Hill, then the right hand road by the Tavern of Capt. Samuel Jefferds, built a little before the Revolution (now known as Pike's). This Tavern was renovated a few years ago by Mr. Wm. E. Barry. This was the boyhood home of Maj. Wm. Jefferds referred to as the proprietor of the Jefferds Tavern in Kennebunk. Crossing Little River and thence through Harriseeket we find on the right and near the Branch River the house built in 1735 by James Gillpatrick. He was the father of Richard, mentioned in description of Kennebunk, and of Olive who married Maj. Wm. Jefferds. From records that I have seen I think that the first Gillpatrick house was built on the western side of the river and that the one occupied by James Gillpatrick in 1860 and sold to Chas. H. P. Storer is of later date. I also have Second Parish in Wells Tax Books of 1774 and 1799 and those Gillpatricks are not on the list.

A short distance after crossing the Branch River the road intersects with the Branch road or the Upper Stage Road to Berwick. Near here on the upper side of the road was the house built by the Town of Wells for the Acadians. During the French and Indian War of 1755-1760, an expedition sailed from Boston early in 1755 composed mostly of Massachusetts troops (of which several were from Kennebunk). On arriving at the Bay of Fundy they were joined by British troops with artillery. The French forts in Nova Scotia were captured and the whole country came into the possession of the British. As a matter of expediency the whole French population amounting to about 7000 were forcibly removed from their homes and scattered among the English colonies on the Atlantic coast.

Some of the people of Wells had an active part in the removal. The sloop Prosperous, of which Daniel Bragdon was master, owned in Wells and York, was one of the transports. She carried between three and four hundred to Boston. Of these unhappy exiles six were allotted to the Town of Wells: John Mitchell and wife with two children, Margaret and Gregory, and two children of Peter White, Margaret and Madlin. The house was probably built in the fall of 1755. There is a tradition that the Mitchells formerly living on the Sanford Road were descended from this family.

Continuing east on a small hill north side of the road is the house built in 1758 by Ichabod Cousens, later occupied by his son, Maj. Nathaniel Cousens (owned and occupied in 1860 by Alexander G. Fernald). A little east of here is the path to the Upper Wading place coming out near the present Sayward Street. Pleasant Street was the road then from the western part of the town. The first bridge across the Mousam was near the Lower Dam and was built in 1730. There was also what was called the lower wading place somewhere. Mr. Remich says that there is no record or tradition that tells when the bridge was built near its present location, but he thinks before 1772. Judge Bourne says that the great freshet of 1755 carried away every dam and bridge on the river. How many different ones is not known. In the description of Kennebunk in 1790 it was near its present location but a low bridge, that is, near the water. There was a hill between it and the bridge over Scotchman's Brook. There is a record of a new one or one repaired about 1800.

As the traveler goes east there is a hill in front of the Howard and Brown houses. This was plowed down in 1827. There was a swamp in front of Bourne Street as was shown when the telephone wires were placed underground in 1927. The grade has been lowered in front of the Ocean Bank. The old road east was Barnard Street, extending straight over in front of the Jordan Farm. I do not find the record of when Portland Street was laid out but probably in the early stagecoach days.

In 1830 a new bridge was built across Mousam River under the supervision of Capt. Ralph Curtis. This was built 17 feet farther up the river than the one it replaced. It is probable that the stone abutments were built at that time as the location was changed and the bridge built higher from the water. There was a pier in the center, sidewalk on the upper side. While this bridge was being built, the stages forded the river just below (this I was told by an eye witness). We can hardly realize this

when we look at the banks now. But there has been lots of filling done.

The bridge of 1830 was replaced by an iron one in 1882, a single span, trussed above, sidewalk on upper side. In 1906 this bridge was moved up river four feet to make room for the truss of the electric railroad, when the line was extended to York. The bridge was raised at that time about one foot at the eastern end and a little more at the western end and the street and hill graded. There was a fill of four feet at the entrance to the Paper Mill yard. The top of the hill was cut down as the banks at the Mousam House and Parsonage show. In 1920 the State Highway Commission and the Town built the present concrete bridge with sidewalk on each side.

Water Street in 1860 was very near the Grist Mill. It was changed a few years after the Leatherboard was built to make a straight road from Main Street to the front of their Plant. Back of the mill by the side of the river was a low gambrel-roofed house. It is now between the laundry and the Grain Store (when or by whom built unknown). Below that an old barn. The Saw Mill was built about 1844 by the Mousam Mfg. Co. All of the mill and factory property is now (1860) owned by Mr. Wm. Lord. A short distance below the saw mill there was a fence and gate. The old factory pasture is used to pasture cows and there are many kept in the village. There are only two other houses in the mill yard, the old factory barn, a foundry and perhaps a blacksmith shop. Water Street is filled with logs in the winter time. Sam'l Clark operates the mill. Water Street must be one of the first streets to be cleared and made passible for teams in this part of Wells. The first supplies and machinery for the mills was brought by vessel into Mousam River. Just how far up they came is now uncertain, but they probably came as far as they could. The building of mills at Cat Mousam—the Great Falls—and the increasing business at the Village, all made travel on this road. The old factory woods were cut in 1864 and sawed here. Water Street is now discontinued below the Leatheroid.

Mousam River is about  $22\frac{1}{2}$  miles long. It rises in Mousam Pond, flows through Sanford, a corner of Alfred where it is joined by a branch from Shaker Pond and North Alfred; thence through Kennebunk to the Atlantic Ocean. A description of the dams and mills at its upper end is not necessary. A large dam was erected at South Sanford about 1906, the electric plant installed and the power transmitted to Sanford. About one-half mile below at Whichers there are two ponds with Saw and Grist Mills.



From about 1900 it was owned by B. C. Jordan of Alfred who did a large lumbering business. The mills are now gone. At the Old, as it was once called Fluellen, Falls is a natural stone dam. This was improved by saw mills in the early days. The names of owners and dates are not certain. This was a favorite place for picnics in the years from 1850 to 1900. About 1900 the Sanford and Cape Porpoise Elec. R. R. built a dam, installed an electric plant and used the power on their car line. Varney's Falls about a mile below has never been developed. The Middle Falls, or Cat Mousam, were developed between 1730-1750 and there have been several dams and mills. There is an interesting story of the origin of the name. In the early 1800's it was a Community Mill with many owners. Each having a certain number of days in which he could saw.

In the early 1820's it was badly damaged by freshets and not repaired for many years. About 1825 the Kennebunk Manf. Co. at the Village endeavored to buy the different shares and were partially successful securing a controlling interest, but did not develop it. In 1855 Joseph Dane and Oliver Perkins purchased all available shares, built a new dam and mill which they operated for many years, doing a large lumber business. They sold to B. C. Jordan of Alfred, who also did a large business. The mill was destroyed by fire September 2, 1904. The water privilege was purchased by the R. W. Lord & Co., who used it for a storage basin. I have never seen any record or description of when the first dam was built at Mitchell's. Mr. Remich in his description of Kennebunk Depot in 1820 says that there was a Grist Mill. I know that there was a saw mill there before 1850. About 1860 R. W. Lord & Co. started the Net and Twine Mill, which is now a part of the American Net and Twine Co. The first dam and saw mill at the Village was built by Henry Sayward in 1670. See Chapter Five.

The Histories say that the Big Freshet of 1755 destroyed every dam and bridge on the river. The records are rather indefinite as to when the first dam was built on the site of the present upper dam or who built it. In the description of Kennebunk of 1790 it was at its present location with the saw mill at the eastern end then owned by Joseph Storer. After the Kennebunk Manf. Co. acquired the property in 1825 they built a new dam (see Chapter Five).

Extensive repairs were made to this dam in 1869. A new dam was built in 1873. The mill property was then owned by Capt. N. L. Thompson. This dam lasted until 1920 when it was replaced by the present one. The present owners are: The Rogers.

Fibre Co., 3-5; Town of Kennebunk, 2-5. There is no record of when the first lower dam was built, evidently in 1770 or 80 or before 1790. A new dam was built by the Leatherboard Co. in 1876 with a long flume by the side of the river to the mill. The stone bulkhead and wing dam were built in 1895. It was replaced in 1907. A new lower dam was built in 1919. Each of the Town Histories say that there was a dam about 1770 at the head of tide water, that there was not then an island. There was a Grist Mill and Iron Works.

The dam was carried away by the freshet of 1785. There was no trace of the dam when the Leatherboard built in 1876. I do not find in either of the Town Histories any reference or mention of any changes in the course of the river below the village, but it is very evident that at some time years ago the hill where the Leatherboard stable was built extended to the west bank. Even in 1860 there was a high hill extending to the eastern channel of the river. Hundreds of loads of clay gravel have been hauled from there and spread upon the streets of the Village.

I quote from a book written by Mr. W. E. Barry entitled "A Stroll by a Familiar River": "But is there aught of interest concerning the small inlet crossed by a bridge just abreast the west side of the island and with the sunken land beyond? I am reminded by it of some earlier river channel.

"Truly so, friend.

"You shall hear that one of our former aged residents once assured me, that long ago, when his grandparent was a youth, a great freshet caused the stream which then flowed in a loop far around in the pasture yonder, then ye river began to force a passage for itself through the narrow neck of land at the extreme west side. This the people seeing were pleased with and aided the stream, and a new channel was formed."

Unfortunately he gives no dates, but it indicates that he knew of the old channel. Mr. Barry's description indicates that this change happened after there were settlers in Kennebunk. If that is the case it seems strange that the historians do not mention it. In 1860 the lower east corner of what was later the Leatherboard yard was a swamp. There was a stone culvert near there on Water Street. The ground where the coal pocket was built was then a frog pond extending by the later extension of Grove Street, thence around east of the Kimball shoe shop and into the low marsh south of the field where the Leatherboard Co. dried their board; thence to the channel below the island which then had a hard gravel bottom. There was a substantial log bridge a little below where the Leatherboard stable was built and boats used to

come up to the bridge. When the ice pond was excavated in 1910 we found in one place, about three feet below the surface, quite a large area of fresh grass sods, showing that it had once been much lower ground.

My explanation of the new channel would be this (all guess work): That in the former days when the hill or neck of land extended to the west bank that it was covered with large trees. The river flowing against the bank would in time undermine it and in a big freshet the heavy trees on the bank would cause it to slip on the clay beneath. If the water got started across it would make a new channel and it would go quicker if, as Mr. Barry says, the people aided.

In the years between 1850 and 1900 there have been many slides from the bank into the river above the bridge and thousands of cubic yards of sand washed in and all this within two miles of the Village. The early settlers probably had the most of their supplies and the machinery for their mills brought by water in small vessels from Boston, and exporting the sawed lumber from the mills. These vessels entered the Mousam River east of Hart's Rocks, followed its winding course by Stony Bridge, thence up to the Landing. This perhaps would be hard to locate exactly now. Reference is made in one of the Histories to its being near a big stump, which is probably gone now.

There was shipbuilding on the banks of the river, 1750 to 1800, near and below the Larrabee Garrison. The sawed lumber required was probably brought down from the Landing in scows, as there was a sand bar at the mouth of the river. A company was formed and incorporated to change the outlet. A dam was built nearly opposite the Hart place and a new channel dug east of Great Hill in 1793. This was a failure as a ledge was encountered. But the Mousam flowed into the cove until Nov. 5, 1846, when the present channel west of Great Hill was opened. But this was not what was anticipated.



## CHAPTER FIVE

## MANUFACTURING AND MILLS 1670-1888

The first dam and saw mill at Kennebunk was built in 1670, at what was known at one time as Emerson's Falls, a little above the present Sayward Street. It was built by Henry Sayward. This mill and other buildings were destroyed by the Indians in 1688, and for 40 years it was again a wilderness. In 1730 a new dam and mill was built on the old site. The raceway from the wheel used to be called the gut and extended nearly to the present dam. Reference is made to a mill which had not been operated since the freshet of 1708, being rebuilt in 1750, but we are told that the great freshet of 1755 destroyed every dam and bridge on the river. In 1759 a dam was built on the site of the present upper dam. It was probably owned by Col. Joseph Storer or he had a controlling interest in it, as a few years later he had a saw mill there. There does not seem to be any record of when the first dam was built on the site of the present lower dam. There is a record of Iron Works at the western end of the lower dam in the early 1770's. The Chapter "Kennebunk in 1790" says that there were iron factories then. There was a mill at the eastern end which with additions became the Mayal Mill, then the machine shop of the Mousam Manf. Co. and it was destroyed by fire in 1840. Maj. Wm. Jefferds had a Fulling or Cloth Mill on the western side in 1790 and probably many years after. Richard Gilpatric also had a Grist Mill at the western end of the lower dam. Edmund Pierson removed his Tan Yard here in 1811 from Curtis Lane. He built the buildings afterwards used by George Leach as a machine shop and by John H. Ferguson & Co. Planing, Sash, Blind and Door Manf.

There was a dam, Grist Mill and Iron Works at the head of tide water in 1770. The dam was destroyed by the freshet of 1785. A part of the lower dam Iron Works was removed soon after 1800 to the intersection of York and High Streets and was the blacksmith shop of Dimon Gilpatric. One of the Jefferds buildings was removed to Pleasant Street.

*Kennebunk Manufacturing Company*

In 1825 a Company was formed and incorporated as the Kennebunk Manf. Co., who bought all of the property on both dams, also of Joseph Storer 60 acres of woodland and 25 acres of grass and pasture land, on the east side of the river (the old Factory Pasture), and of Richard Gilpatric his homestead (the old boarding house), and 50 acres or more of grass and pasture land on the west side including both sides of what is now Brown Street.



They also purchased a controlling interest of the shares of the Cat Mousam Saw Mill and probably the Old or Fluellen Falls property. They began to make preparations to build a large cotton factory. They built a new upper dam in 1825 and it was built 26 inches higher than the one it replaced. The flowage damages were \$1,800.00, the largest amount being at the Parson Fletcher farm. Aaron Littlefield was master carpenter. This company did not prosper and all of the property was sold at auction Nov. 10 and Dec. 1, 1828. When the property was advertised for sale mention was made of two dams nearly new, which would indicate that a second dam had been built at the lower pond.

When the Leatherboard Co. built their dam in 1876 no record could be found of when the old dam was built. It was old and rotten but judging from the time other dams have lasted, it does not seem probable that it was a hundred years old. The dam of 1876, like the one it replaced, was built straight to the eastern bank with head gates to a flume by the side of the river to the Leatherboard Mill. In 1895 a stone bulkhead was built a little farther down the river and a wing dam built, the head gates being in the bulkhead. The wing dam was replaced in 1907 and there was a new lower dam built in 1919. The sale of the property in 1828 did not realize enough to pay their debts.

#### *Mousam Manufacturing Company*

In the spring of 1832 a company was formed and the Counting Room built (1832). A Cotton Mill was built, date not given. A charter was granted by the State of Maine, approved Feb. 22, 1834, for the purpose of Manufacturing Iron and Steel, Cotton and Woolen Goods; to purchase Real and Personal Property not to exceed \$100,000.00. Jonathan Fiske was chosen Agent. In addition to operating the Cotton Mill they built what was known as the Old Factory Barn on Water Street and carried on an extensive farm business. They probably did their own teaming as their cotton would naturally come by coaster to Kennebunkport. They either operated or leased the Saw Mill on the eastern end of the upper dam until 1843 when they voted to take it down and build a new one on the site of the machine shop burned in 1840; also to locate a street through the Gilpatric field. In 1847 they voted that the Town may take Brown Street and continue it to the Sea Road if they will keep it in repair. I do not find any record of any building on the site of the saw mill of Joseph Storer. I know that Oliver Littlefield had a Planing, Sash, Blind and Door Mill there before 1850. He bought the first wood planer in Town in 1844 and must have had a mill of some kind to put it in. I do not find any record of the use that Mousam

Mfg. Co. made of the Pierson buildings. I am wondering if the machinery of Littlefield was not removed there about 1851 and either operated by him or sold to J. H. Ferguson & Co.

The Mousam Manf. Co. made many changes on the river bank. A wall of split stone was built the entire length of their plant and around the lower dam wheel pit, west side of the river. This company probably built the large and expensive flume at the western end of the upper dam. There was a bank wall above the dam, and a large head chamber, a flume nearly the size of the building now at the end of the dam. The bottom was as low as the river bottom. There were four large head gates with rack above. From this head flume there was another extending under the street in to the Mill Yard and nearly down to boiler room of the Griffin and Reed Mill. This was 14 ft. wide and 6 ft. high. A smaller one 6x6 ft. carried the water to the wheel. These flumes were of oak timber planked both sides and puddled between with blue clay. There were also logs with 2 in. holes bored through for drainage in the yard. The Richard Gilpatrick house was converted into two tenements.

In March, 1850, an agreement was made with Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr., to increase the capital stock and enlarge the business, which probably meant new buildings or additions. April 5, 1850, the factory, machinery and stock in the factory were destroyed by fire.

#### *Warp Mill*

In 1851 the record says that machinery was put in the Sash and Blind Factory of Oliver Littlefield and a company formed called the Warp Mill, to spin cotton yarn, John Cobby, manager. This was in operation several years, probably leasing building and power from the Mousam Manf. Co. June 29, 1854, voted to sell all of the property, real and personal, to Mr. Wm. Lord for \$25,000.00 and that the Treasurer pay the debts and divide the property. From this time until 1865 all that was doing at the upper dam was the Grist Mill operated either by Sam'l Kimball, A. F. Wormwood or Johnson Webber. The Warp Mill was closed and there was nothing in the old Counting Room.

At the lower dam Sam'l Clark was operating the Saw Mill most of the time. In the Pierson buildings George Leach had a machine shop and J. H. Ferguson & Co. a Planing, Sash, Blind and Door manufactory. Dec. 22, 1863, all of this property was sold to Capt. N. L. Thompson, Joseph Dane and Joseph Titcomb, for \$31,000.00. I do not know how long it had three owners. I think not long.





The Kimball Shoe Shop from West End of Bridge



*Hewitt Mill*

In September, 1865, work was commenced to repair the Warp and Twine Mill. The old building stood end to the road. The old roof was taken off, additions made and a new roof put on, side to the street. There was a belfry on the roof, with bell. A new Picker building was erected and I think a new water wheel installed. The mill was let to Mr. Hewitt for spinning cotton yarn and was in operation late in 1865.

*Colvin Mill*

In the fall of 1867 a mill was built below the Grist Mill by or for Capt. Robert Cleaves of Saco. This was also used for spinning cotton yarn. I do not know whether Capt. Cleaves operated it himself or leased it, but a few years later Raymond N. Colvin was there and his occupancy named the mill. He removed to New Hampshire in 1878.

*Union Lace Company*

In the summer of 1868 Capt. Thompson built a mill nearly on the site of the Cotton Mill of the Mousam Manf. Co., 87x42 ft., three-story tower in the front center; a brick boiler house, a two-story picker building connected with the main mill on the river side by a two-story covered passage. Probably a new wheel was installed. This plant was leased to the Union Lace Co., Griffin & Reed coming here from Attleboro, Mass. They manufactured shoe strings, round and flat. They took the cotton from the bale to the picker, then to mules in the attic, then to a braiding machine; the brass tips were put on by a patent process. This company used the Old Counting Room for a dye house. They also used the Hewitt Mill several years. This company removed to Lake Village, N. H., in 1878.

The building over the head gates was built in 1869. The gates operated inside the building. Later the building was moved nearer the street and the gates operated outside. The first story has been used for a store and barber shop. The second story is a tenement.

The building (Griffin & Reed Mill) was used as a shoe shop in 1881 and 1882 by Mawhenny and Co. In 1883-4-5 parts of the mill was used by the Leatheroid Co. (described under that head). In 1883 the third story was finished for roller skating and used for that purpose about three seasons. In 1886 the Merino Co., makers of felt boots, occupied the mill and were there until about 1890. They used a great deal of steam in their business, and extensive repairs were necessary after their removal. The Kennebunk Manf. Co. (Spaulding and others), makers of leather-

board lunch boxes and extension cases, occupied all or parts of the building until about 1906.

About 1895 the property was bought by the Leatheroid Manf. Co. and with it two-fifths of the water rights of the upper dam. In 1896 they took a part of the first story, built Paper Machine building and from that time it is fully described under that head. It has been called the Paper Mill since 1896.

#### *Grist Mill*

In 1869 Capt. Thompson built a new Grist Mill. A part of the old mill was torn down and a part removed across Water Street. The old mill was a short distance from the street. There is no record available of when it was built. It was here in the description of Kennebunk 1790, but the street was moved up river 17 feet in 1830, and they did not move the mill.

The Colvin Mill was used by the Leatheroid Mfg. Co. in 1881-85, or perhaps longer. Then Mr. Haskell used it for manufacturing leatherboard extension cases. There was a Sea Food Co. there one or more seasons. I think that it was vacant part of the time afterward. The property was acquired at some time by the Leatheroid Co. In the dividing of the water rights during the different transfers of property, one-fifth of the power of the upper dam belonged to the Grist and Colvin Mill. The Leatheroid Co. had also acquired the Grist Mill. The Laundry building built by the Leatheroid Co. in 1883 was sold to J. H. Ferguson with the agreement to furnish power for a certain number of years. This was done from the Colvin Mill wheel, that wheel getting its water from the Grist Mill flume. The Shoe Shop fire destroying those buildings, a rope drive was installed from the Paper Mill to the upper corner of the Laundry building. The Leatheroid Co. then owned both sides of the river with three-fifths rights of the upper dam. They have since used it all on the western side of the river.

In 1873 or 74 the property on the lower dam was sold or supposed to be to the Cummings Shoe Co. of Springvale, but there was a slip somewhere and they went to South Berwick.

The Leatherboard Co. bought and built in 1876 and will be described under that head.

#### *Kennebunk Mill Co.*

In the summer of 1877 the Kennebunk Mill Co. was formed for the purpose of building a Shoe Shop. A lot was secured on the corner of Main and Storer Street and a building erected 160x35 ft., four stories with boiler room at the upper end. This was framed by the local carpenters and raised by Kennebunkport

ship riggers. The power was from the Hewitt Mill wheel. It was occupied in Dec., 1877, by the Ventilating Waterproof Shoe Co., coming here from Mechanic Falls, Maine. In 1884 a wing was built at right angles to the upper end, 60x60 ft, four-story. The stones for the foundation were from the lock on the Kennebunk River. By vote the Town relinquished its road or right of way to the river which it had for many years.

In 1885 more room being wanted, the Hewitt Mill site was secured and that mill removed to Water Street, where it was later converted into a dwelling house or hotel, and called the Kennebunk House. It is now owned by Geo. E. Cousens. On the site thus secured was erected a second wing 50x72 ft, also four-story with a tower between the two wings. During these years the property had come into the possession of Joseph Davis of Lynn. He failed May 20, 1891, Spinney & Co., Assignees. In 1893 the Town voted to buy the property for an Electric Light Plant. In the division of the water rights the Shoe Shop had two-fifths. The first lights on Main Street were Aug. 31, 1894. The upper part of the mill was leased in 1894 to the Mason Cobb Shoe Co. of Auburn, Maine, who were here several years. They were followed by the Rice & Hutchins Shoe Co. They vacated the latter part of 1902. It was not occupied in the winter of 1902-3. The water was drawn out of the sprinkler system, and the insurance expired. And May 3, 1903, there was the biggest fire that this Village ever saw. The Shoe Shop, Grist Mill, Colvin Mill and Annex, Old Corner Grocery and Parsons Block totally destroyed, Dresser's store badly damaged, North Star Wheel house and wheel damaged.

In the summer of 1903 the brick mill was erected for the Light Plant which is in the basement. The upper stories were leased to the Goodall Matting Co., who occupied them several years. They were followed by the Goodall Worsted Co., who vacated in 1927, then leased to the Kesslen Shoe Co.

The Goodall Mill was built in 1918 by the Goodall Co. of Sanford. The Town voted to buy it Oct. 15, 1929, and it is now leased to the Kesslen Shoe Co.

#### *Union Mill Co.*

The Union Mill Co. was organized in 1888 by local residents of Kennebunk for the purpose of building a Shoe Shop. A lot was secured in the eastern corner of the Leatherboard field. Grove Street was extended down the hill around the lower corner of the proposed mill to Winter Street. Work was commenced Jan. 1, 1889. The frame was bought in Fairfield, Maine, framed ready to raise. Joseph Day and Wm. L. Littlefield, contractors. The

building was completed and formally dedicated April 11, 1889, with public exercises which were largely attended and the mill was in operation soon after. Alfred and Warren Kimball, shoe manufacturers of Lawrence, Mass., were the lessees. In the winter of 1889, while the mill was building, the Boston and Maine R. R. were constructing a spur track from their main line. This was in operation in time to bring the shoe machinery to the mill, the track serving this mill on the eastern side. Kimball Bros. remained here until Oct., 1893, when they removed to Lawrence.

The next occupant was the Queen Refrigerator Co., which was in the mill a few years. In 1898 the Mousam Counter Co. was organized and purchased this mill. Some years later all of the counter machinery was moved here (Roger Fibre Co.) from the Leatherboard Mill. A new office building built on the east corner, and large stock houses. They moved to Water Street in 1930 (see Leatherboard). A fire on the first floor, Aug. 16, 1931, damaged it. Oct. 28, 1933, mill, boiler house, stock houses, office building and water tank were totally destroyed by fire.



## CHAPTER SIX

## LEATHERBOARD—LEATHEROID—ROGERS FIBRE Co.

*Leatherboard*

In 1875 a company was organized consisting of Emery Andrews, who had operated a Leatherboard Mill at Welchville, Maine, and S. B. Rogers, Stephen Moore, Homer Rogers and others who had had a mill at South Sudbury, Mass., and were incorporated as the Mousam Manufacturing Co. (taking the name of the Cotton Mill of 1834 to 1850). This company bought the lower dam privilege on the Mousam River in Kennebunk. Their bounds were six feet above the foot of the dam and on a line parallel with it from Water Street to Brown Street; on Brown Street to land of Wm. Downing, thence following the top of the hill to the lower side of the island. On Water Street from a little above the Paint Shop to the top of the hill back of the Grove Street Schoolhouse, and following the top of the hill to a little below where was afterward built the Kimball Shoe Shop; thence in a straight line below the island to the line on the western side of the river.

Mr. Andrews moved here as resident manager. They commenced operations early in the summer of 1876, built the first unit of the mill about 100x50 ft, three-story, bleach room on the west side, brick boiler room, and tall brick chimney, a little below and nearer the river; the office building northwest corner of the yard, which was enclosed with a high picket fence. The buildings were painted red. A large wheel pit was excavated, the water to discharge into the east channel. (There was then an island between the mill and the west bank.) The material taken out was dumped into the east channel above the wheel pit, which was entirely filled, thus diverting all of the water to the west channel except that which went through the wheel. An open flume was dug and planked to the lower dam with head gates under the saw mill. A few years later the channel below was dredged and blasted deeper. Now at high tide the water backs into the wheel pit. The Mill was in operation in the late fall of 1876. It was built by a Lewiston contractor.

A new dam was built to replace the old one of which there was no record as to when it was built. A whistle was placed over the boiler and the first morning that it blew the Town woke up and *wondered*. In 1877, 50 ft. was added to the length. In 1883 50 more and a tower outside in front, and water tank on the roof. The Waterproof building was built about 1877. During the first few years the teams were kept in the old factory barn, which

was also used to store stock. This was destroyed by fire Nov. 13, 1881. The Waterproof building was struck by lightning July 9, 1885. The beating engines were in the second story of the mill; stock, chests and board machines in first story. In the summer the board was spread on the grass, in the winter dried in the mill. The first driers were in the attic, then over the boiler; later on the first floor, then across the road.

In the early part of 1877 they began to make counter or heel stiffenings and most of the board since that time has been used for that purpose. Many different machines have been built, experiments made of different methods. A great many fingers have been lost and hands mutilated, but no fatal accidents.

The material for board and the shipments were all hauled by team until 1889 when the B. & M. spur track was built. This came nearly up to the Mill. A side track and trestle were built, the bottom planked, and freight and coal came that way. A new boiler house was built on the east side of Water Street. Boilers moved and a small car built to haul coal directly into the boiler house. Dry house built below the new boiler house. This was destroyed by fire July 11, 1912. A stable was erected on the hill below in 1891, used for the teams until the auto truck superseded them. In the early days they operated a coal business with a coal wharf at Kennebunkport. Stock houses were built as required.

The purchase of this privilege changed the ownership of the Saw Mill and the Sash and Blind Factory. The Saw Mill closed in the early summer of 1876. Ferguson continued until destroyed by fire Dec. 6, 1888. The Saw Mill burned the same night. It had been used for storage, but there was not much value in it. In 1895 the stone bulkhead was built and head gates installed there and wing dam built making a larger inlet. The dam of 1876 was replaced in 1919 and the wing dam in 1907.

During the World War, 1917, Co. A of Dexter was quartered at the Leatherboard while guarding bridges and other property of the B. & M. R. R. The beating engines were removed to Bar Mills in 1910 where they have a large plant. The Counter machines were all removed to the Kimball shop and a large machine shop operated several years. A little after 1920 a new wheel was installed, a new flume back of the mill and electric equipment, and all machines are now run by motors. The mill was torn down in 1932 and a cement block room built over the wheel.

In 1881 the National Fiber Board Co. was organized, combining the Mousam and several other companies. The same managers were retained for many years, Emery Andrews, Stephen

Moore and Homer Rogers, "the Big Three." In 1881 the Mousam Manf. Co. bought the Leatheroid Manf. Co. plant then located at Philadelphia and removed it here, starting in the Colvin Mill. In 1884 this plant began a separate corporate existence under the management of "the Big Three."

In 1898 the Mousam Counter Co. was organized doing business in the Kimball shop until 1930 when it removed to Water Street. The Rogers Fibre Co. was organized in 1915 and took the business of the three companies. A new office building was built on Water Street in 1912. The old office is a tenement on the extension of Bourne Street.

### *Leatheroid*

In 1881 the Mousam Manf. Co. purchased the Leatheroid Plant of Philadelphia and in December of that year it was removed to Kennebunk starting in the Colvin Mill. In 1884 it was incorporated as the Leatheroid Manf. Co. and continued as such until 1915 when the Rogers Fibre Co. was organized, taking this plant, the National Fibre Board Co. and the Mousam Counter Co. The history of the plant is a little difficult as it was not only under the same management as the National Fibre Board Co. not only in the office but in the erection of buildings and alterations in the plant, and there may be repetitions.

The sheets were first made in the small building below the Colvin Mill (Sulphuric Acid process). The first year it was largely experimental cans, boxes and other goods. Several carpenters were employed and other help. The building now known as the Laundry was erected in the fall of 1882, 75x75 ft., with flat roof. Tanks were built for soaking the sheets. A foot bridge was built in 1883 across the river. The Picker building of that mill was used as a paint shop. The first leatheroid trunk was made in the fall of 1883 in the southwest corner of the Laundry building. In the winter of 1883-4 they began to use the basement and second story of the Reed & Griffin Mill. (The third was being used as a skating rink.) Experiments were being made in constructing trunks, cars and boxes. A large press was installed in the basement to press sheets. The paint shop (old picker building of Griffin & Reed Mill) was burned March 27, 1884. It was not rebuilt. In the summer of 1884 a paint shop was built on Water Street. It is now the first building on the left going down. It was built one-story and flat roof, a few years later raised and a story built underneath. The first unit of the mill on the island was also built that year and the sheets were made there. The ice house back of the paint shop was filled from the bank.

In the summer of 1885 a mill was built on Water Street, three-



story, about 100x50 ft.; a brick boiler house and ell extending from the lower back corner across the canal, and a water wheel installed; machine shop, dry and lumber house about same size as the mill, one-story, flat roof—later a pitch roof was put on and about 1907 a second and third story added. The mill was built by Capt. F. K. Small. The machinery was moved from the Griffin Mill and the new mill started Oct. 1, 1885, leaving the west side of the river for about ten years during which time a large number of trunks, cans, boxes, cars, cases and other goods were manufactured.

The Island plant was enlarged, the ice house built and a deep well, 200 ft. deep, to get cold water for soaking sheets. The Long building was erected in 1894, 400 ft. long, with tank nearly the whole length. In 1910 an ice pond was excavated on the island, approximately 400x150 feet, ice tools bought and the houses filled in the winter of 1910-11, and have been since. Before that it came from the upper pond.

During this time the company had bought or obtained control of the Grist Mill and Colvin Mill and with one-fifth of the water power of the upper dam. The flat roofed building was sold to John H. Ferguson who excavated a basement room about 1885. There was a machine shop in the lower end of the basement. A laundry was started in the basement and upper end in 1886. The lower end was the Eastern Star Printing Office, 1888 to 1929. The Reed & Griffin Mill with two-fifths of the water power was also acquired before 1896. This mill was used by the Knnebunk Manf. Co. making leatherboard lunch boxes and extension cases from about 1892 to 1906.

In the early spring of 1896 the Leatheroid Co. began getting ready to make paper. They took about one-half of the basement of the Reed & Griffin Mill, excavated below the floor for stock chest, installed a beating engine, built a one-story paper machine room in line with the back side of the mill about 100x25 ft., installed a paper machine with a store room farther down. In the corner of the boiler room a bleach room was built three stories high, and rag room on Brown Street with rag duster, cutters and benches for sorting rags. There was a bridge from this to the third story of the bleach room. This building was about 30x20 ft., afterward extended 20 and 30 and 20 ft., as the mill developed. A 75 h.p. engine was installed for more power—Jordan engine—to finish stock, and commenced making Island Paper from pure cotton rags. The wheel under the mill not proving of sufficient power, in the summer of 1897 a stone bulkhead was built into the river a little above the center of the mill, wheel pit exca-



vated and a pair of twin wheels installed, right and left driving pulley in the center, and a flume built under the mill. A rope drive was installed, 800 ft. endless. This did not prove satisfactory and eight single ropes were used to drive the engine on grooved pulleys and a heavy tightener.

In the spring of 1898 the Dirigo Building was erected on about the site of the old Pierson Tannery Building. A Dirigo fibre machine was installed and tank built to soak sheets which were made by hydrochloride acid or zinc chloride process. The wheel at the western end of the lower dam being worthless, it was removed, the wheel pit enlarged and a Trump Turbine wheel installed in 1898. The shaft from this wheel was placed in line with the one already under the mill. The southwest corner of the mill was cut out and trussed, an extension built and No. 2 beater installed. Dirigo Paper made and commenced making Dirigo fibre. In 1889 a wheel pit was excavated at the upper end of the mill, a connection made with the big flume and another Trump Turbine installed. The crown gears of this wheel was placed upside down. The shaft was in line with the one already under the mill and was arranged to clutch together and form a continuous shaft to the lower wheel. One was driven from the upper dam and one from the lower using the water twice on the same shaft.

In 1900 a wheel pit was excavated above the bridge at the western end of the upper dam, another Trump Turbine installed and a tunnel for the shaft under Main Street to the mill was made. The wheel house was built with double walls to deaden the sound of the gears. No. 3 beater was installed this year in upper end of mill. In the spring of 1900 the Rag Stock house was built in the field in front of the office with trestle to walk to the coal trestle. Rags were wheeled to the top of the beams.

In December, 1900, a 200 h.p. engine was put in to replace the 75 h.p. previously used. A 14-ft. wheel drove to a sleeve on the main shaft with clutch to connect. Boilers were installed at different times making four in all with forced draft. Many changes were made in the buildings from 1900 to 1920. Dirigo department was extended and more tanks built, dry room for sheets, and thin sheets dried on frames, and canoes made.

After the Electric Road was extended to York in 1906 a track was built into the Paper Mill yard, a coal trestle built and coal and rags delivered in the yard. After the Lunch Box Co. vacated the rag department was moved from Water Street and rags were sorted, cut and carried to the bleach from the third story and the Brown Street rag room used for storage of rags.

The first crossing below the lower dam was by footbridge

which was usually carried away each spring; then two triangular log piers were built and filled with stones. A bridge was built and a private electric road built to carry paper to the island. This was later extended to carry sheets to the field to dry on racks and to a dry room over the paint shop. The sulphuric acid for the island came for many years in carboys, in carload lots; later a large iron tank was placed below the mill on Water Street and the acid came in a tank car delivered by the Sanford & Cape Porpoise R. R., who had a track on Water Street.

A paper machine was used at one time to dry long thin sheets. This was afterward moved to the island. Horn fibre was made at one time for electric use from linen thread waste. A Foundry was built in the field back of the paint shop and operated a number of years. Patterns were made and machines built too numerous to mention. The Paper machine was moved to Poland about 1920. The old Counting Room was torn down about 1918, the Paper mill in 1922. The Trunk department was sold to the Walton Trunk Co., who now make trunks, cans and cars in the old mill of 1885. The Fibre department Island and Dirigo was sold in 1930 to the Delaware Hard Fibre Co. who removed all machines worth moving. The flume under Main Street was filled in 1930. Dirigo building razed in 1932. The Mousam Counter Co. moved to Water Street in 1931.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

## CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

The inhabitants of the town of Wells living between the Kennebunk and Mousam Rivers were incorporated, June 14, 1750, as the Second Congregational Society in Wells. Thirty-five men as follows: John Butland, \*Richard Boothby, Philip Brown, John Burke, Ichabod Cousens, \*Thomas Cousens, \*Benjamin Cousens, John Gillpatrick, Jr., \*Richard Kimball, \*Nathaniel Kimball, \*Thomas Kimball, \*Stephen Larrabee, \*John Mitchell, \*Samuel Shackley, \*James Wakefield, Nathaniel Wakefield, \*Jeddediah Wakefield, \*John Wakefield, \*John Wakefield, Jr., John Webber, \*Stephen Webber, Joseph Cousens, Samuel Emmons, John Freas, \*John Gillpatrick, Samuel Littlefield, \*Stephen Titcomb, Joseph Towne, Thomas Towne, \*Jesse Towne, John Maddox, Jonathan Webber, \*Joseph Wormwood, \*Benjamin Wormwood, \*Richard Thompson.

A Church was consecrated March 14, 1757, and the members were those marked (\*) of the above.

The first Church was built at the Landing just below the McCulloch house. It was begun in 1749 and so far completed that meetings were held in the winter of 1749-50. It was a rough structure 30 ft. long, two-story. In 1752 voted to enlarge it by adding 12 ft. to the length.

In 1772 the Parish voted to build a new Meeting House, 56x46 feet with porch in front on the west side of the County Road near James Kimball's, 46 pews on the lower floor, 24 in the gallery. This was commenced in 1773 and so far completed that it was voted Nov. 22, 1773, "That the Worship of God be hereby removed from the Old to the New Meeting House." The lot was given by Joseph Storer for so long as it shall be used for church purposes. Voted to take down the Old Church and use such parts as are suitable in the new one.

At that time all of the inhabitants of the Parish were taxed for the support of the Church as well as for Town and Provincial purposes. John Gillpatrick, Jr., was the Tax Collector for the Second Parish in Wells in 1774. I have the books, three in number. The Town and Provincial are signed by the Selectmen of Wells. As the list may be of interest, I give it:

"Mr. John Gillpatrick Jun., Collector for the second parish in Wells. You are hereby required to Collect the several sums annexed to the respective names in this list and pay in the one half of the same to Joseph Storer, Esq. Treasurer for 2nd Parish or his successor in office on or before the last day of October next

ensuing & the other half on or before the twentieth day of March next following."

John Mitchell,  
Ebr. Rice,  
Saml. Burnham,

Assessors for the Second Parish in Wells.

Wells, June 11, 1774.

The Parish Tax was 91 pounds 13 shillings.

There are 129 names on the list—3 women, 3 of them no tax, 39 no real estate.; 10 were taxed for their faculty.

I have had these books since 1859 (G. A. G.).

They are of interest as showing who were residents of the 2d Parish in Wells (now Kennebunk) in 1774; they also show the amount taxed.

Richard Boothby  
Thomas Boothby  
John Butland  
John Butland, Jr.  
William Butland  
Samuel Burnham  
Philip Brown  
Jacob Blaisdell  
Moses Blaisdell  
\*John Cole  
\*John Cousens  
John Cousens, Jr.  
Samuel Cousens  
Samuel Cousens, Jr.  
John Cousens  
Nathaniel Cousens  
Thomas Cousens  
Joseph Cousens  
Edmund Currier  
Jacob Curtis, Jr.  
Ebenezer Coburn  
Daniel Clark  
Joseph Churchill  
Joseph Clark  
Benjamin Day  
\*Joseph Day  
Abram Day  
Samuel Day  
Ebenezer Day  
John Dennet  
Aron Drown  
Widow Olive Emerson, Admx.  
of Est. Waldo Emerson  
Samuel Emmons  
Pembleton Emmons  
Obadiah Emmons  
Jabez Emery

Jabez Emery, Jr.  
Job Emery  
Joseph Emerson  
William Emerson  
Stephen Fairfield  
Mark Fisk  
John Fisk  
John Gilpatrick  
John Gilpatrick, Jr.  
Richard Gilpatrick  
Saml. Gilpatrick  
Jerediah Gooch  
Jerediah Gooch, Jr.  
Thomas Gypson  
James Hubbard  
Rheuben Hatch  
Nathaniel Hatch  
Obadiah Hatch  
Daniel Hatch  
Nathaniel Kimball  
Nathaniel Kimball, Jr.  
Richard Kimball  
Richard Kimball, Jr.  
Mary Kimball  
James Kimball  
Samuel Kimball  
Isaac Kimball  
Israel Kimball  
Stephen Larrabee  
Stephen Larrabee, Jr.  
Jesse Larrabee  
Joel Larrabee  
Obadiah Littlefield  
Samuel Littlefield  
Anthony Littlefield  
Edmond Littlefield  
James Lord



Abram Littlefield	Richard Thompson
Daniel Medar	Caleb Thompson
John Mitchell	Seth Taylor
Samuel Mitchell	Rebecca Towne
Jotham Mitchell	Stephen Webber
John Maddock	John Wakefield
John Maddock, Jr.	Isaiah Wakefield
Adam Ross	Jerediah Wakefield
Ebenezar Rand	Hezekiah Wakefield
John Ross	James Wakefield
Ebenezar Rice	Nath'l Wakefield
Joseph Storer	Joseph Wormwood
Benjamin Stevens	Benj. Wormwood
Moses Stevens	William Wormwood
Samuel Stevens	Thomas Wormwood
Joel Stevens	Eli Wormwood
Ame Shackley	Samuel Waterhouse
John Shackley	John Waterhouse
John Shackley, Jr.	John Wormwood
Paul Shackford	Ezekiel Wakefield
James Smith	William Wells
Stephen Titcomb	Eliphet Walker
Joseph Titcomb	John Webber
Benjamin Titcomb	Daniel Merrill
Samuel Towne	James Ross
Joseph Taylor	Joseph Hobbs
Jonathan Taylor	
John Taylor	

\* No Tax.

There were horse sheds near the western corner and at right angles to the house and a horse block between them and the road. Jan. 30, 1803, Voted, to add 28 ft. to the length and erect a belfry. The building was sawed in two, the rear half moved back 28 ft. and the intervening space connected by walls and a new roof over the whole making it end to the street as at present. This was done in 1803. In 1804 the tower having been erected as far as the floor of the belfry, the spire was erected and the Paul Revere bell hung, the second bell in the County. It was all one room until 1838 when the galleries were floored across and the present rooms below arranged.

The first Town Meeting was held in this Church, Aug. 14, 1820, and continued to be held here until 1858, after which they were held in Washington Hall, except the time from the burning of that Hall until the erection of the Town Hall when they were held here again. After the galleries were floored across the room used as a Sunday School room was called the Town Hall and used for many large gatherings. The Selectmen formerly had an office in the southwest corner with an entrance from the schoolhouse yard. The first stoves were put in the church in 1821. In this Church in 1814 York Lodge of Masons was consecrated and its

officers installed. In 1864 political lectures were held here. In 1865 Memorial Services were held at noon of the day of President Lincoln's funeral in Washington. In 1857 the first Christmas Tree and Christmas celebration was held.

April 4, 1859, Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr., gave the Unitarian Society a clock with three dials in the tower and one in the singing seats. Formerly the bell was rung at 7 a.m., 12 m. and 6 p. m. Also after a death it was tolled one stroke for each year of the age of the deceased.

The changes, alterations and additions have been so many that it does not resemble much the Church of the early days.

The Second Congregational Church, Dane Street, was dedicated Oct. 7, 1828. The vestry was built in 1860, enlarged in 1905. Outside front steps taken off, a new spire, level floor and new pews and other repairs were made in 1869.

Baptist Church dedicated Oct. 15, 1840, chapel built 1873.

Methodist Church, Portland St., dedicated July 28, 1858.

Scandinavians' Church, Hall St., 1893.

St. Monica Catholic Church, Storer St., 1904.

Unitarian Parsonage given by Mrs. Swan in 1890.

The Second Congregational Parsonage purchased in 1867.

Methodist Parsonage devised by Miss Burnham in 1864.

Baptist Parsonage devised by Mrs. Hill in 1904.

Methodist Campmeeting in Kennebunkport Woods, 1832.

Methodist Campmeeting removed to Old Orchard, 1873.

#### *Schoolhouses*

In the Yard of the First Parish, built 1797.

Union Academy, Dane Street, built 1833.

Swan Street built 1856.

Grove Street built 1884.

High and Grammar built 1870.

High and Grammar remodeled 1898.

High and Grammar built 1921.

Volume 1, Second Parish in Wells Records, has this: "1757, Voted to hire a Schoolmaster for One Year from the time we get him. Voted to keep the first three months at the Meeting House, the next three months at Mousam and three months at Alewife Brook and the last three months in the lower part of the Parish.

"1764, Voted that the School be kept four months at the Meeting House, three months at Alewife Brook and Cat Mousam, and two months at the lower part of the Parish."

The records do not say who the schoolmaster was or how much he received for his services.

The first schoolhouse in the Village was erected in 1770 on the

corner in front of the house of Abial Kelley (corner of Summer Street and the Sea Road). It was a small one-story building. Some years afterwards it was moved to near the present entrance to Hope Cemetery. After the new one was built by the Church (1797) it was sold and occupied as a dwelling house. After being moved several times it reached Brown Street where it was the property of Mrs. (Taylor) Roberts, then of her son-in-law, S. Frank Fairfield. It was destroyed by fire Feb. 5, 1886.

*School District No. 5 of Kennebunk*

The bounds of the district were made by the Town in April, 1804, and remained practically the same. It comprised the Village, Cat Mousam Road to and including the farm of Elisha L. Mitchell, just below Jones' Hill, Sanford Road; Branch River on the Branch and Harryseekit Roads; York Street to the Wells line; the Sea Road to and including Wormwood's, afterwards Harriman's; Summer Street included Capt. Isaac Downing; Saco Road the Hedge Farm and Owen Burnham's; Alfred Road to George Perkins' and David Drawbridge's.

The schoolhouse lot by the Church was bought of Joseph Storer for the sum of ten dollars with reservations by a syndicate of citizens and a schoolhouse built about 1797. This was the schoolhouse of the Village for many years. Here the school meetings of the District were held and some of them lively ones, until the attendance became so large that they had to use the Town Hall. There was a small one-story schoolhouse on the western side of the river, southeast corner of York and Friend Streets. When built or first used for a school unknown.

Union Academy was built by subscription in the summer and fall of 1833, and incorporated in 1834. This was a Baptist Institution and was at the foot of Union Street. After several years it was found not to be a financial success and it was sold at auction Dec. 30, 1850, to Capt. Nathaniel L. Thompson who moved it one hundred feet in front of its original location. The District voted July 21, 1855, to purchase the building for school purposes. It was repaired, remodeled and furnished. In April, 1857, the district voted to maintain three schools,—a Grammar School, one Primary on the West side, and one on the East side. The old house by the Church then became the Primary. The Swan Street schoolhouse was built in 1856, the first story only finished. The District had graded schools in 1867. A Special Act was passed by the Legislature in 1868 giving authority to District No. 5 to elect S. S. Com., Clerk, Treasurer, Agent, Assessors, Fire Wardens, Policeman, and to raise money by assessment for the same.

The Academy building was destroyed by fire April 10, 1870. A new brick building was built the same year. The first graduating class of the High school was in 1872. The District voted in 1873 to make it a free High School.

Centennial Hill schoolhouse was built in 1884. The High school building was remodeled and enlarged in 1898, razed and the present building erected in 1921.

In 1893 School Districts were abolished by the State. In 1896 District No. 5 gave up its Charter and since then the Town Committee has managed it. The old house by the Church was torn down about 1925 or 26. The books of the District were deposited by the last Clerk of the District (G. A. G.) in the vault of the Town Hall. I don't know their condition after the fire of 1921.



## CHAPTER EIGHT

## OLD BUILDINGS

Kennebunk Village has some old buildings, or some parts of them are old. The most of them have been so altered and modernized that little remains of their original appearance. A few have not been much changed. The Wallingford house on York Street, built by Geo. W. Wallingford, Sen., in 1804. The Parsons house on Bourne Street, the only three-storied house in the Village, built in 1812 by John U. Parsons. The house on Main Street, back of the Lexington Elms, built by Nathaniel Frost in 1799, would look much as it used to if the balustrade was put back on the roof and the front portico removed. We give dates of some of the buildings. For Churches, see that head. For Mill buildings see manufacturing pages.

Washington Hall built by Kimball & Webster, 1805.

Warren Block, Kelly and Warren, 1818.

Lord's Block, Wm. Lord, Water District Office, 1825.

The Old Brick, Waterston and Pray, 1806.

The Old Brick, rebuilt by Isaac Lord, 1824.

Wood Annex (Mousam House), 1825.

Ocean Bank, same lot, 1870.

Savings Bank Annex, 1903.

National and Savings Bank, 1929.

White Store, corner Main and Dane Streets, 1814.

Col. Hardy's Tobacco Factory, 1810.

Remich Printing Office, Nath. Frost, 1793.

Palmer Walker Store, 1818.

Osborn Store, corner Main and Fletcher Streets, 1815.

Sargent Ross Block, corner Main and Grove Street, 1881.

Mason Block (Downing's), 1878.

Ross Block, built two stories, corner Main and Grove Sts., 1895.

Ross Block, third story added, 1902.

I. O. O. F. Block, Main Street, 1895.

Parsons Block, corner Main and Storer Streets, 1887.

Lunge and Meserve Block, cor. Main and Storer Streets, 1903.

Curtis and Roberts Block, east end of Triangle, 1923.

Thompson's at the Bridge, Main and Water Streets, 1912.

Bowdoin Block raised (present Post Office), 1912.

K. of P. Block, Main and Bourne Streets, 1891.

K. of P. Block repaired, story added, 1919.

Star Office, Garden Street, 1929.

Town Hall, Main, Portland and Summer Street, 1867.

Altered and enlarged, 1892.

Present Town Hall, 1921.

Public Library dedicated, Aug. 2, 1907.

Engine House, Fletcher Street, 1889.

Barnard Tavern, Barnard Street, 1776.

Jefferds Tavern, fronting the bridge, 1783.

Name changed to Mousam House, April 10, 1861.

Girls' Club House, back of Library, 1926.

Oscar Clark Store and Tenement, York and High Sts., 1889.

A brief sketch of when the houses on Summer Street and some others of the older houses were erected:

Starting at the corner of Elm Street where John Downing's blacksmith shop was, now a two-tenement house.

The house of John Downing which he occupied in 1860.

Herbert E. Lunge built about 19

Elisha Chadbourne built (John Balch), 1810.

Phineas Hemingway (Joseph Dane), 1796.

Robt. Smith's house was built before 1800 by Capt. Jere Paul. It then stood between the houses built by Capt. George and Capt. Ivory Lord. It was moved to the corner of Park Street and sold to Robt. Smith in 1854.

Dr. Burleigh Smart built the house on the other corner of Park Street in 1826, the only brick house in the Village.

Dr. Jacob Fisher built soon after 1790. His house stood about where Capt. N. L. Thompson built in 1848. When Dr. Fisher built he had an unbroken view from his door to the Meeting House. In 1841 it was sold to Capt. Thompson who moved it down the hill opposite Elm Street, now owned by Dr. J. S. Barker.

Capt. Charles Thompson built in 1846.

The Remich house was built by Daniel Paul in 1801, bought in 1817 by James K. Remich; enlarged and rebuilt by his son, Daniel, in 1865.

Capt. Geo. Lord built in 1834. Capt. Ivory Lord in 1835.

Dr. Edw. W. Morton built in 1850. This house was known for a few years prior to 1919 as the McLellan House. Remodeled in 1927 and now owned and occupied by two granddaughters of Dr. Morton, the Misses Annie and Florabel Ross.

Joseph Titcomb built in 1855. It was sold to Emery Andrews in 1878, and to Chas. R. Littlefield in 1917.

Col. Wm. L. Thompson built and sold to Capt. Wm. B. Nason, Jr., 1854. The Daniel Hatch house was built by John Chadbourne in 1804. Capt. Horatio Moody built in 1866 between Capt. Nason and the Hatch house.

Walter L. Dane built about 1900. Wm. Simpson in 1875.

Boston and Maine R. R. Station was built in 1872.

The next below I think Saml. Lord, date unknown. The house at the corner of the Sea Road was built by Abial Kelley about 1794. Geo. Wise built the French roof house in 1868. Isaac Downing about 1834.

*East Side of Summer Street*

Joseph Moody probably the last part of 1700. Bennett house about 1890. Hubbard house about 1750.

Atlantic Shore Line Waiting Room, 1898.

Sylvester Chick built in 1889. Ralph Andrews about 1906. Eliot Rogers about 1896. George Little, 1875. Capt. Moses Maling in 1862-1863.

The Hatch house was built by Capt. Joseph Hatch in 1800. Razed and C. W. Goodnow built about 1905.

John A. Lord built in 1855. Col. Wm. L. Thompson in 1860-61.

The Hillard house built on Main Street, 1775, moved to Water Street, 1884.

Hartley Lord built in 1884-85. Wm. Taylor built in 1804.

The small part of the next house built by Jonathan Banks in 1760, the large part by Judge Jonas Clark in 1804-5.

About 1875 Mr. Hartley Lord built a stable near the then Capt. Wm. Williams house; after building on the Hillard lot it was moved to the near of the new house. Rev. Augustus and Mrs. Lord have built here in 1933.

Hotel Greenleaf was in part built by Saml. B. Low in 1816, sold in 1817 to Col. Enoch Hardy who finished it and lived there until his death in 1849, then sold to Wm. Hacket. He sold in 1858 to Capt. Wm. Williams who enlarged and remodeled it. Mrs. Williams sold about 1909 to Dr. Herbert H. Purington. He sold about 1915 to Perley D. Greenleaf.

Wm. D. Hay built in 1921. (Dr. Barker's already described.)

James Kimball in 1763. Ward and Rice, 1878. Dr. L. Richards house about 1800.

*Mechanic Street*

South east, Rufus Furbush in 1821 sold to Hosea Goodwin. On the north east corner house built by Humphrey Chadbourne, date unknown.

*Storer Street*

N. N. Wiggin built in 1858. Alva Hill about the same time.

The first house on the farm of Rev. Nathaniel Hill Fletcher was built about 1796 by Samuel Stevens, Jr. He died at sea about 1801 and the estate was sold to the Rev. Mr. Fletcher who also purchased several lots of land in the immediate vicinity. The



farm then extended on the west side to the Perkins farm. The elm trees on each side of the road were set out about 1812. The long line of stump fence on the western side of the road just above the house used to attract a great deal of notice. Rev. Mr. Fletcher moved from Kennebunk in 1828 and the farm was sold to Nathaniel M. Towle who owned it about 20 years although he never lived on it. In May, 1850, he sold to Alvah Hill. In 1854 Hill sold to Ithama Littlefield who built a new house. April, 1858, Littlefield sold to Nathan Dane, Jr., who greatly improved it. April, 1864, Dane sold to John Roberts. Sept. 27, 1878, while owned by Roberts the barn was burned. This was the last fire at which the buckets of the Kennebunk Fire society did efficient service. There were two lines to the river, one filled, one empty. The writer of this sketch stood in the river and filled buckets. Although connected with the barn the house and ell were saved but much unnecessary damage was done in the house. The barn was rebuilt in 1879. In 1885, Roberts sold to Frank Perkins. In 1891 the Perkins estate sold to Edwin Parsons. The barn was burned June 27, 1894. The date on the present one says 1894. In 1901 Parsons sold to Don Chamberlin and in 1906 he sold to Jean Dubois. His estate was sold to E. C. Snowdon and he sold about 1919 to Ernest C. Smith of Kennebunkport who now owns it.

#### *Dane Street*

Union Street was laid out in 1815, name changed to Dane Street in 1845. The first house on the left was built by John T. Kimball after 1830. Sold to Capt. Jott S. Perkins, then to Henry Durrell in 1871. It is now owned by Don Chamberlin.

Second Congregational Church dedicated Oct. 27, 1828. Chapel built in 1860.

The next house was built on the Ross Road, moved here by B. Palmer. He sold to Capt. James Burnham, Sept., 1855. His daughter devised it to the Methodist Society for a Parsonage (1864). The old house was torn down and a new one built about 1894.

The double house was built by B. Palmer, sold to Capt. Geo. A. Webb and Capt. John Barker. It was remodeled about 1904 by Mrs. Carrie Simonds (Webb's daughter) and operated a few years as the Fleetwood Hotel. Vacant a few years. Sold to E. C. Snowdon, now again two tenements.—Elm Street.

The next house built by Edw. Gould a few years after the street was laid out. Sold to Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr. He sold to Mrs. Daniel Nason in 1853. It was sold to Chas. H. Cole who has remodeled and enlarged it.

The next house was built by Isaac Furbush, Sr., about the



same time. Now two tenements. The house on the corner was moved from the Sea Road by Edw. Greenough. It has been occupied by Chas. W. Williams, Wm. Hacket, Capt. Edw. Stone and Wm. Titcomb who married Capt Stone's daughter.

Park Street was opened about 1807 to Dane Street, extended to connect with Grove Street in 1881. At the foot of Dane Street across Park Street was Union Academy built in 1833. Bought by District No. 5 in 1855, used as the Grammar School until 1866 when the High School was started. Destroyed by fire, April 18, 1870. Brick schoolhouse built the same year, remodeled and enlarged 1899; razed and the present High School building erected in 1921.

Playground given to the Town by Mr. Henry Parsons in 1911. Auto entrance on Park Street. Later more added and it now extends to the Lane back of the Baptist Church where there is an entrance for pedestrians only.

Wm. R. Robinson built the next house about 1900, sold to Judge Edwin J. Cram. It is now owned by Howard L. Burr.

The next house was built by Chas. W. Kimball. He sold to Capt. Wm. B. Nason about 1852; it is now occupied by his daughter, Miss Annie Nason.

Oliver Bartlett purchased the next lot about 1825, built a barn and started a house, sold to Samuel Mendum in 1828; he sold to Alexander Warren, who finished the house and lived there until his death in 1878. In the next 40 years it has had many occupants and owners. In 1921 purchased by L. A. Hurd of Sanford. It is now the funeral parlors of Hurd and Son, Paul D. Hurd, resident manager.

George A. Gilpatrick bought the next lot in 1882, built in 1883, enlarged in 1903. The barn back of the Dane house was razed in 1932 by Dr. J. H. Macdonald.

The first houses on the extension of Part Street were built in 1881 by A. Jacquemin and Charles W. Kelley.

#### *Fletcher Street*

A house was built as early as 1810 by Timothy Kezar who was a tanner. After his death the property was owned by Capt. Daniel Curtis of Kennebunkport. He sold to Oliver Riatt who sold to John Emery in 1858. In 1869 it was sold to George Parsons. In 1889 to Chas. W. Goodnow who lived there until about 1905.

There have been many large and handsome houses erected on Storer Street since 1880, as well as in other parts of the Village.

## CHAPTER NINE

## OLD HOUSES

*Colonel Storer*

Any description of Kennebunk Village would be incomplete without a somewhat extended account of Col. Joseph Storer and his family. He was the son of John Storer descended from one of the early settlers of Wells, born May 17, 1725. Married in 1753 to Hannah Murch of Greenland, N. H. He came to Kennebunk to make it a permanent home in 1757. Built the small one-story house which stood on the lot now occupied by the residence of the late Paul I. Andrews (who built in 1894). This Storer house was then moved to Hovey Street. About 1759 he built the Mansion house, now standing although many changes have been made outside and in. There used to be a long roof at the back sloping to one story as was the style in many of the old houses of that date. It was the first house in town to be painted. A full description is given in "Kennebunk 1790." He left two sons, Clement, who was a physician and married and settled in Portsmouth, N. H. Joseph, who married in 1808 Miss Priscilla Cutts of Portsmouth, N. H., and brought his bride to the family mansion. The property was never divided but as lots were sold they divided the proceeds. Soon after the death of Col. Storer his sons commenced selling the estate. Joseph probably operated or leased to others the Saw Mill at the eastern end of the upper dam. President Monroe was entertained here July, 1817, on his eastern visit.

Joseph Storer built in 1783-5 a large two story store on the western end of the Triangle in which he traded, also kept the Post Office (succeeding Barnard), which he kept until 1810 when he was appointed Collector of Customs, which office he held sixteen years, Geo. Wheelwright deputy. This store was purchased about 1833 by Isaac Lord and moved to High Street nearly opposite Friend Street, and sold to Capt. Joseph Hatch, Jr. Joseph Storer died in 1832 aged 76 years. In 1825 General Lafayette, while on his visit to the United States, had luncheon here, and was introduced to the ladies of Kennebunk. This visit named the elm tree.

In November, 1844, Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr., purchased of the widow of Joseph Storer the homestead of about 20 acres. At that time the field on the western side of Storer Street, extending from the bridge to the Parson Fletcher farm belonged to the estate. Capt. Lord sold this in lots and made many improvements to the buildings and fences. The barn with the elm tree growing through the roof has in the past attracted considerable at-

tention. This was built by Capt. Lord. York County map of 1856 shows a picture of the house as it looked then. In April, 1869, his son, Charles W. Lord, sold the Old Storer house with the residue of about eleven acres of land to Charles Parsons. In Oct. 1870, Mr. Parsons had the two large granite stones in the front of the house hauled from Alfred and placed as a front fence. One is 30x3x1 feet, the other 29x3x1 feet.

In the fall of 1891 he had the land surveyed and divided into lots. Parsons Street was laid out and Bourne Street extended. Most of the lots were sold at public auction. The homestead was sold to Owen Berry. Berry sold to Charles H. Brown. The Lafayette Elm and lot surrounding it was deeded to the Town by the heirs of Chas. Parsons Jan. 3, 1916. Its size in 1921: Five feet above the ground, girth 17 feet 3 inches; spread 131 feet. There is no record of its age. This lot is now a part of the Park System.

#### *Mousam House*

The Jefferds Tavern or Mousam House after April 10, 1861. April 19, 1775, Dominicus Lord commenced clearing the lot. There is a tradition that the elm trees opposite the Ocean Bank and Soldiers' Monument were taken from here and set out that day. About 1783 he erected a small house which is a part of the present hotel. A few years later he sold to Major Wm. Jefferds who at once opened it as a Public House. (One record that I have seen says that Major William, son of Capt. Samuel Jefferds, moved to Kennebunk in 1790, purchasing of Dominicus Lord in 1791 the house which he had built on the Hill.) He was landlord until 1814 when his son Capt. George Jefferds took his place. Maj. Wm. probably made the additions, date uncertain. York Lodge history refers to it in 1814 as Wm. Jefferds' House. In 1821 they refer to a dinner at Capt. George Jefferds' Hotel. Capt. George Jefferds died in 1823. The estate was sold in 1826 to Capt. John Hovey who owned it until his death in 1855. In a history of the Second Congregational Church it says that the Council called to organize the Church met at the Public House of Nathaniel M. Towle, 1826. The Masons had a dinner at Brother Towle's Hotel in 1827. Mr. Towle came to Kennebunk from Exeter, N. H., and was landlord of the hotel during the palmy days of the Stage Coach travel. He was followed by Isaac Hilton, dates not known. Mr. Hilton died in 1851 and Capt. Hovey managed it until his death in 1855.

The property was sold at auction April 30, 1856, to Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr., George, Ivory and Wm. Lord. Edmund Warren was here part or all of the time from 1857 to 1861. B. Frank Good-



win removed from the Mousam House, corner of Main and Fletcher Streets, April 10, 1861. He brought his sign with him and the name was changed from Jefferds Tavern to Mousam House which it has since been called. Mr. Goodwin remained here until April, 1863. He was followed by Woodbury A. Hall, part or all of the time until 1870. Mr. Lorenzo Parsons purchased the property in July, 1870, and made changes and improvements, built piazza and portico.

In 1874 he sold to John C. Baker who remained there until his death. He was followed by George C. Twing, who died in April, 1885. George Bonser managed the hotel and stable two years. Charles C. Tibbetts of Norway purchased it in 1889. Chas. E. Sawyer managed it about five years, followed by Daniel H. Swan. During that time Mr. Tibbetts died and his widow returned and has since been proprietress.

Mr. Remich says that when Lafayette was in Kennebunk, June 25, 1825, that he had dinner at Nathaniel M. Towle's Hotel.

Masonic History says that they had supper at Hilton's Hotel, Dec. 20, 1847.

#### *The Lexington Elms, Main Street*

Thomas Cousens had a house in the west corner before 1750. Theodore Lyman built a two-story house about 1770 but did not own the lot. He dwelt in the upper story and used the lower as a store. He and James Kimball set out the elm trees in front, April 19, 1775. This house was removed to Zion's Hill about 1777, and was occupied by a Mr. Blaisdell and was later known as the Hillard house, was bought by Hartley Lord in 1883, part moved to Water Street, part to Kennebunkport.

Nathaniel Frost came to Kennebunk in 1790. In 1793 he built the store afterwards owned by James K. Remich. In 1797 he married Abigail, daughter of James Kimball. He bought the lot of Kimball and built the house the same year. He was captain of the Cavalry Company. He died Oct. 21, 1817. Soon after the erection of the house he built a store near where the Cousens house stood. After his death the store was occupied by Daniel Sewall and others. It was purchased by Chas. Herrick and moved to the east side of Fletcher street and has been described. The house was occupied after Frost's death by Thomas Drew and then by Wm. B. Sewall. It was sold in 1818 to Joseph Storer and was occupied for a time by his brother-in-law, Charles Cutts, Secretary of the U. S. Senate, Wm. Lord and others.

Storer sold the property in 1832 to Isaac Lord of Effingham, N. H., who had purchased the old Brick Store and it was occupied by his son James Lord. Sold in April, 1854, to Capt. Noah





Washington Hall, destroyed by fire Nov 25, 1866  
Occupied site of old Town Hall



Nason. He built the front portico and iron fence. At that time the back field was nearly covered with apple trees. Capt. Nason sold in August, 1863, to Dr. N. E. Smart, and his son-in-law, Capt. Wm. Symonds. Dr. Smart died May 19, 1869. Capt. Symonds and his wife and daughter were drowned in the English Channel, Oct. 14, 1874, by the collision of the Ship Kingsbridge, of which he was master, with the Ship Candahar. Mrs. Smart died in 1879 and devised the estate to her nephew, Nathan Dane, Jr., who moved there Dec. 11, 1879. There used to be a balustrade around the roof. This was removed and the iron fence cut off by Mr. Dane. He sold about 1900 to David Littlefield, who died Jan. 12, 1905. It is now occupied by his son, William O. Littlefield, and his daughter, Mrs. Howe (now deceased).

Benjamin Brown, Esq., built in 1784. He used a part of it for a store several years. His trade increasing, he built the main part of what was called the Long Building before 1790, and used it for his store until 1793, when he sold it to Wm. Jeffers and Stephen Tucked. He left Kennebunk in 1795 and the house became the property of Dr. Jacob Fisher who married Brown's sister. He probably had various tenants. After his death in 1840 it was sold to Oliver Littlefield. There was formerly a side hill on Main Street in front of this house and the Howard house. The street was plowed down in 1827. Littlefield excavated the front part of the house making a hall and two front basement rooms. He resided here until his death in 1853. It was then sold to Edw. E. Bourne, Jr., who made it two tenements. He occupied one, Wm. Downing the other.

The house when built was considered the most beautiful and costly residence in the Village. The front yard fence attracted much attention as the posts were covered with powdered glass which glittered when the sun was shining. The house has been occupied by Messrs. Griffin, Scarborough, H. E. and Dr. Geo. W. Bourne, Tucker, Seavey, Dr. Wentworth, Otis, King and Bodge, who has an auto filling station and repair shop.

The Barnard Tavern was built in 1776.

Dr. Burleigh Smart built the only brick house in the Village in 1826 on the corner of Summer and Park Streets, which he occupied until his death in 1852. It was then sold to Capt. F. N. Thompson who added the outside ornamental finish.

There are only two French roof houses in the Village. George Wise built in 1868, Capt. Moody in 1866.

The Wallingford house, York Street, was built in 1804 by Geo. W. Wallingford, Sr. It was constructed in the best manner with outer underpinning lined on the inside with brick, plastering be-

tween the studding. It was provided with seven fireplaces, a large brick oven, smoke closet, etc. I think that no attempt has been made to modernize it outside or inside.

In 1803 and 1804 Thomas Eaton was architect and builder in enlarging the First Parish Church and building the steeple. He also built the houses of Jonas Clark, William Taylor, Nathaniel Frost and Geo. W. Wallingford, Sr.

The Kimball house or some part of it was built in 1765 by James Kimball. He also had a blacksmith shop near where the Centennial Elm is. This house is next below the first Town Hall lot.

The Kimball Dane house, corner of Main and Dane Streets, was built in 1795 by James Kimball, Jr. He married Sarah Kimball in 1796 and Sallie Goodwin (sister of Hosea) of Somersworth, N. H., in 1810. Aug. 14, 1815, he sold at auction his house, barn, blacksmith shop and twelve acres of land adjoining to Joseph Dane, Sr. The blacksmith shop stood at the rear of the White Store on the site of the house now owned by Don Chamberlin. It was soon after torn down. Kimball had sold in 1814 the lot on which the White Store stands to Moses Savory who built in the fall of 1814. Mr. Dane resided there until his death in 1858. It was occupied by his widow until her death in 1872. It then became the property of Mrs. F. P. Hall. She sold to Hartley Lord about 1883 and it was then occupied by his mother-in-law, Mrs. Hilton. After her death, by Dr. J. S. Barker. It was then sold to Dr. A. L. Douglas. He built the office on Dane Street. He sold to Mrs. Chase, and her heirs to Dr. James H. Macdonald, who now occupies it.

Union Street was laid out in 1815, probably by Mr. Dane. The name was changed to Dane Street in 1840.

The Parsons house on Bourne Street was built by John U. Parsons in 1812. This house was modeled from a similar one at Newburyport and was undoubtedly the finest dwelling ever erected in Kennebunk with its wide hall, side entry with arched ceiling elaborately finished, spiral staircase of three flights with paneled splayed window and tall clock niche, airy, well-finished rooms, lofty cellar, balustraded roof and terraced lawns and long approach from the street.



## CHAPTER TEN

## DATES OF DESTRUCTIVE FIRES

- Sept. 25, 1813, house and barn of Joseph Dane, Sr., Summer St.  
Nov. 10, 1818, house of Adam McCulloch, Landing.  
Aug. 3, 1824, the Old Brick and houses, Main St.  
Sept. 21, 1837, barn of Mr. Wm. Lord, Summer St.  
Nov. 8-9, 1841, Mayall or Machine Shop, Eastern end Lower Dam.  
Apr. 5, 1850, Cotton Mill of Mousam Manf. Co.  
June 10, 1858, stores west end of the Triangle.  
Sept. 17, 1865, woods fire near the Village on Turnpike.  
Nov. 25, 1866, Washington Hall and Block.  
Dec. 3, 1869, Brick Block, Mousam House, stables, Junkins' store.  
Apr. 10, 1870, Old Academy, Dane St.  
Aug. 17, 1867, old building near Ferguson's shop.  
Sept. 3, 1868, house corner Green and Elm Sts.  
Sept. 27, 1878, John Roberts' barn, Fletcher Farm.  
Apr. 30, 1881, Dr. Ross store and Sargent buildings.  
Nov. 13, 1887, old factory barn, Water St.  
Jan. 3, 1883, blacksmith shop corner Main and Fletcher Sts.  
March 27, 1884, Picker Building (Paint Shop, Leatheroid) near Ferguson's.  
Dec. 10, 1884, Old Boarding House, Brown St.  
July 9, 1885, Waterproof Building, Leatherboard, by lightning.  
Feb. 5, 1886, S. F. Fairfield's house, was once schoolhouse.  
June 27, 1894, Edwin Parsons' barn, Fletcher Farm.  
Dec. 6, 1888, Ferguson's Sash, Blind, Door and Planing Mill.  
Dec. 6, 1888, Saw Mill eastern end of Lower Dam.  
March 5, 1895, Sargent Ross Block, Main and Grove Sts.  
May 3, 1903, Shoe Shop, Grist Mill, Colvin Mill and others.  
Jan. 4, 1906, Leatheroid Island Mill.  
July 11, 1912, Leatherboard and Leatheroid Storehouse near Boiler House.  
March, 1919, Knights of Pythias Block, third story.  
Jan. 30, 1920, Unitarian Parsonage.  
March 1, 1920, Rag Stock house, Leatheroid.  
March 19, 1920, Town Hall.  
March 8, 1923, Frost Store, eastern end of Triangle.  
July 5, 1931, Bonnie Doon, Landing.  
Aug. 16, 1931, First floor, Kimball Shoe Shop.  
Aug. 6, 1933, Farm Buildings, Day and Titcomb, Alewife.  
Oct. 28, 1933, Kimball Shoe Shop, office and stock houses.

The statement that lightning never strikes twice in the same spot does not hold good in regard to fires in Kennebunk Village. Some of its most destructive fires have been on the site of buildings previously burned.

The first mill and other buildings built in 1670 were destroyed by the Indians in 1688. History does not say but probably by fire.

The first serious fire in the Village was Aug. 3, 1824. It originated in the barn of John H. Bartlett on or near the present barn of Dr. E. S. Hawkes. It burned the barn and house of Bartlett and on the west side the house of Palmer Walker. On the east side the three-story warehouse and cabinet maker's shop of Dan'l Hodsdon. The inside of the brick store of John U. Parsons and Co., then occupied by Greenough and Bodwell, leaving the brick walls in fair condition. A store between the block and Fletcher Street (its history not known) but then occupied by Owen Burnham, and the blacksmith shop of Elisha Chadbourne on Fletcher Street. The sites of their buildings were rebuilt and have been described.

Dec. 3, 1869, this corner was again swept by fire. It started in a small building back of the Junkins warehouse and that and the large Mousam House stable on Fletcher Street, the Mousam House and the Brick Block were destroyed and this time the brick walls crumbled. The description of Main Street, 1930, gives an account of what was rebuilt. A blacksmith shop was removed to the east corner and occupied by Jacob Stuart. This was destroyed by fire, Jan. 3, 1883.

The burning of Washington Hall and Block, Nov. 25, 1866, resulted in the building of the Town Hall in 1867-8. March 19, 1920, this building was also burned.

Nov. 8-9, 1841, the Mayall Mill of the Mousam Manf. Co. at the eastern end of the Lower Dam was burned. A Saw Mill on the same site was burned Dec. 6, 1888.

Apr. 30, 1882, Dr. Ross' Apothecary Store and the Sargent buildings, formerly the Michael Wise store, were followed by the building in 1881-2 of the Sargent Ross Block. This also went up in smoke, March 5, 1895.

The Cotton Mill of the Mousam Manf. Co. burned April 5, 1850. The Picker building of the Shoe String Co., then a Leatheroid Paint Shop near the same site, was burned March 27, 1884.

June 10, 1858, three stores, carpenter's shop and hall on the west end of the Triangle were burned and part of that site was burned at the Shoe Shop fire May 3, 1903.

There have been two barns burned on the Parson Fletcher

farm, that of John Roberts, Sept. 27, 1878, and that of Edwin Parsons, June 27, 1894.

The Shoe Shop fire of May 3, 1903, was the hottest and most destructive of recent years. The large four-story shop with two large wings and tower, the Grist Mill, Colvin Mill and annex, the Old Corner Grocery store, Coal office, Lunge and Meserve block, and nearly all of Dresser's store. Main Street of 1930 and the chapter on Manufacturing tell what is there now.

#### ACCIDENTS, TRAGEDIES AND SUDDEN DEATHS

John Mitchell ("Hooker") lost both arms while firing a salute in New Orleans, 1847.

Miss Elizabeth G. Bourne died on Mt. Washington, Sept. 14, 1855.

Dr. Chas. M. Sweat poisoned by his wife, Sept. 23, 1866.

Edwin C. Frost dropped dead on the street, Nov. 21, 1867.

Capt. Wm. Williams killed in vessel, Kennebunkport, Nov. 22, 1869.

Jim Goodwin froze to death in snow storm, Jan. 17, 1867.

Jesse Webster killed by cannon, July 4, 1876.

George E. Goodwin burned to death, Ferguson's, Dec. 6, 1888.

Capt. Wm. Symonds, wife and daughter drowned, Oct. 14, 1874.

Capt. Moody's two boys drowned in Pacific Ocean, May 10, 1877.

Wm. C. Storer died from injuries in Planing Mill, Nov. 14, 1882.

James Smith killed in Saw Mill, Alewife, June 29, 1889.

Seth Robinson drank wood alcohol, Leatheroid, Jan. 22, 1887.

Wm. Young lay on stick of dynamite, July 7, 1921.

Z. M. Cushman lost eye sight (shot), Sept. 16, 1901.

Thomas Knight killed at Depot, May 1, 1903.

Charles Frank Day killed by electric car, July 15, 1923.

Mrs. Myron P. Dickey fell on stairs, killed, Oct. 11, 1908.

Chas. Wm. Roberts killed, wood sawing machine, Dec. 7, 1915.

Wm. H. Littlefield killed by electric car, Nov. 14, 1917.

Dr. John Haley, suicide, April 21, 1910.

Samuel Sinnott killed by auto, Aug. 14, 1928.

Ernest P. Clark drowned, Sept. 1, 1930.

Joshua Clark killed at car barn, Aug. 9, 1923.

Bark Isadore wrecked on Bald Head Cliff, Nov. 30, 1842.

Capt. Chas. Barry lost at sea, 1850.

Capt. Edward Stone lost at sea, 1867.

Capt. John Barker lost at sea, 1861.

Charles Grey, John Cobby, Daniel Chapman and John Taylor lost at sea.

James Clark started for California about 1850, never heard from.



## ITEMS OF INTEREST

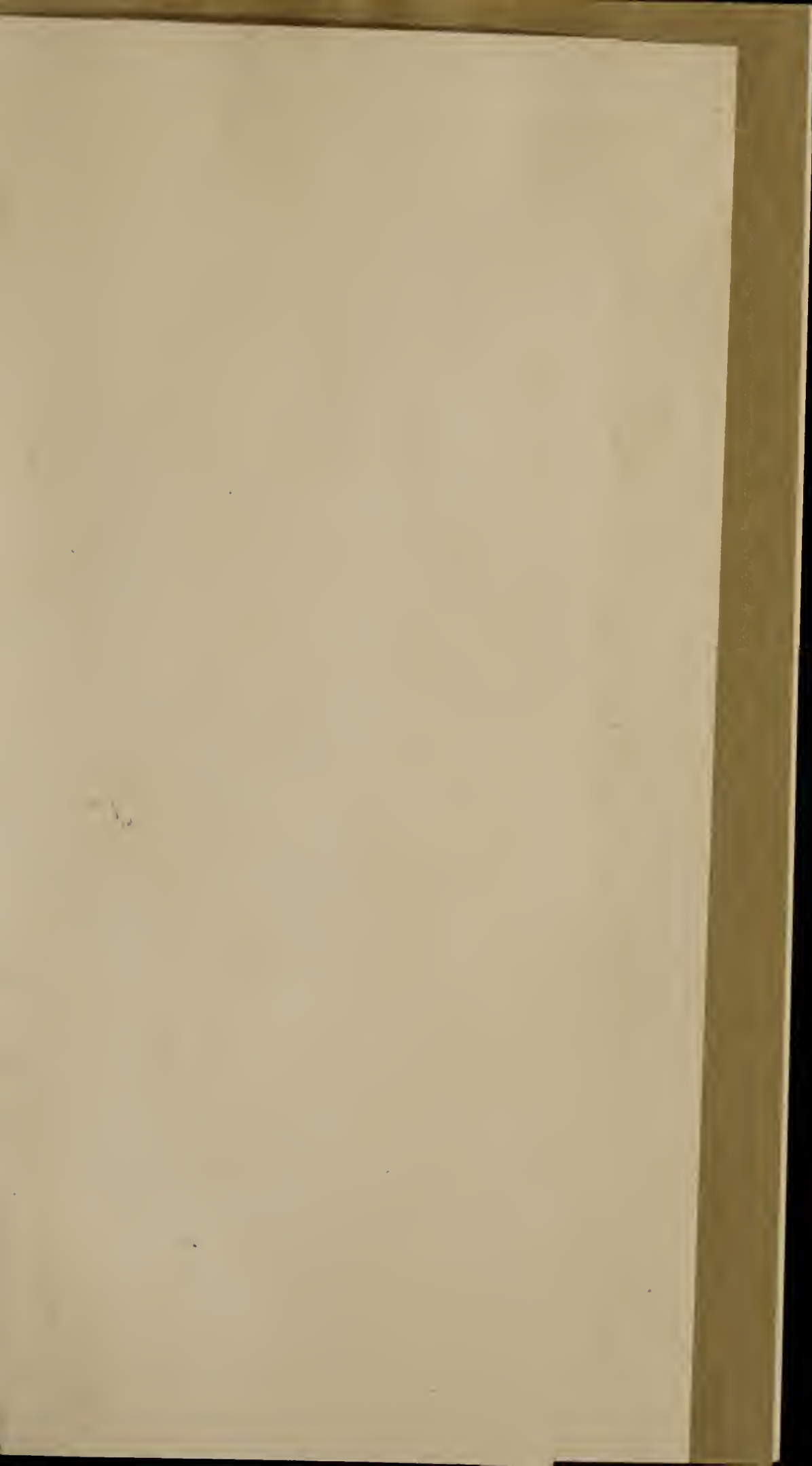
- Kennebunk Fire Society organized Feb. 10, 1812.  
First Masonic Meeting, Dec. 28, 1812.  
York Lodge, A. F. and A. M., chartered March 9, 1813.  
President Monroe visited Kennebunk July 14, 1817.  
Maine admitted a State March 15, 1820.  
Kennebunk Incorporated June 24, 1820.  
First Town Meeting, August 14, 1820.  
Visit of General Lafayette, June 25, 1825.  
First Passenger Train, Portland, Saco and Portsmouth R. R., Feb. 7, 1842.  
Last Stage Coach, Portland to Portsmouth, Jan. 28, 1843.  
First Passenger Train, B. & M. Extension, March 17, 1873.  
First Passenger Train, K'port R. R., June 18, 1883.  
First Campmeeting, Kennebunkport, 1832.  
First Campmeeting, Old Orchard, 1873.  
Mousam Lodge Instituted May 8, 1845.  
First Telegram received in Kennebunk, Dec. 28, 1854.  
First Regiment to go to the Civil War (the 2nd Maine, in fifteen cars, school closed), May 15, 1861.  
Drill of Home Guards, Kennebunk Depot, Col. Wakefield, July 4, 1861-2.  
Gully on Alfred Road near Geo. Perkins', March, 1864.  
Trotting horses on the river, one mile measured, Feb., 1861.  
Hope Cemetery incorporated, 1854.  
Mt. Pleasant Burial Association incorporated, 1843.  
Lock built in Kennebunk River, 1848. (In use 19 years, 29 vessels passed through.)  
Gunboat Aroostook launched Nov. 9, 1861.  
Ocean King launched (largest vessel built at K'Port) Oct. 26, 1874.  
Capt. Wm. Lord, Jr., gave Unitarian Society a clock, three dials in belfry and one in singing seats, 1859.  
First Mowing Machine, H. Porter and Henry Jordan, 1854.  
First Sewing Machine, 1857.  
First Lawn Mower, 1877.  
First Street Lights, kerosene lamp, 1872.  
Kerosene Oil coming into use, 1860.  
First Colorado Potato Bug, 1876.  
Ice Storm, Jan. 29, 1886.  
First Telephone, L. Office to Colvin Mill, Jan. 18, 1883.  
Col. Harriman of N. H., delivers political lecture in Unitarian Sunday school room, Sept. 7, 1864.  
Restaurant, K. Depot, P. S. & P. R. R., 1869.



Safe Guard Engine bought, 1880.  
First Water Pipes and Hydrant from Force Pumps, 1886.  
First Memorial Day exercises, May 30, 1870.  
Yellow Day, Sept. 6, 1881.  
Skating Rink, Nov., 1883.  
Factory Woods cut, 1864.  
Shoe Shop purchased for Electric Light Plant, Dec. 12, 1893.  
First Electric Lights on Main Street, Aug. 31, 1894.  
Brick for first Town Hall made below Paper Mill, 1876-7.  
Contract with Mousam Water Co., July 29, 1895.  
Sewer built, 1910.  
Old Home Week, July 30 to Aug. 3, 1907.  
Society Circus, Aug. 19, 1915.  
Scotchman's Brook flowed on Main Street, May 17, 1916.  
Lafayette Elm deeded to the Town, Jan. 3, 1916.  
Playground, Dane and Park Street, 1911.  
Co. A of Dexter quartered at Leatherboard, May, 1917.  
Telephone wires placed underground, 1927.  
Sanford and Cape Porpoise Street R. R. built, 1898.  
    Extended to York, 1906.  
Main Street graded and tarviaed, 1928.

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